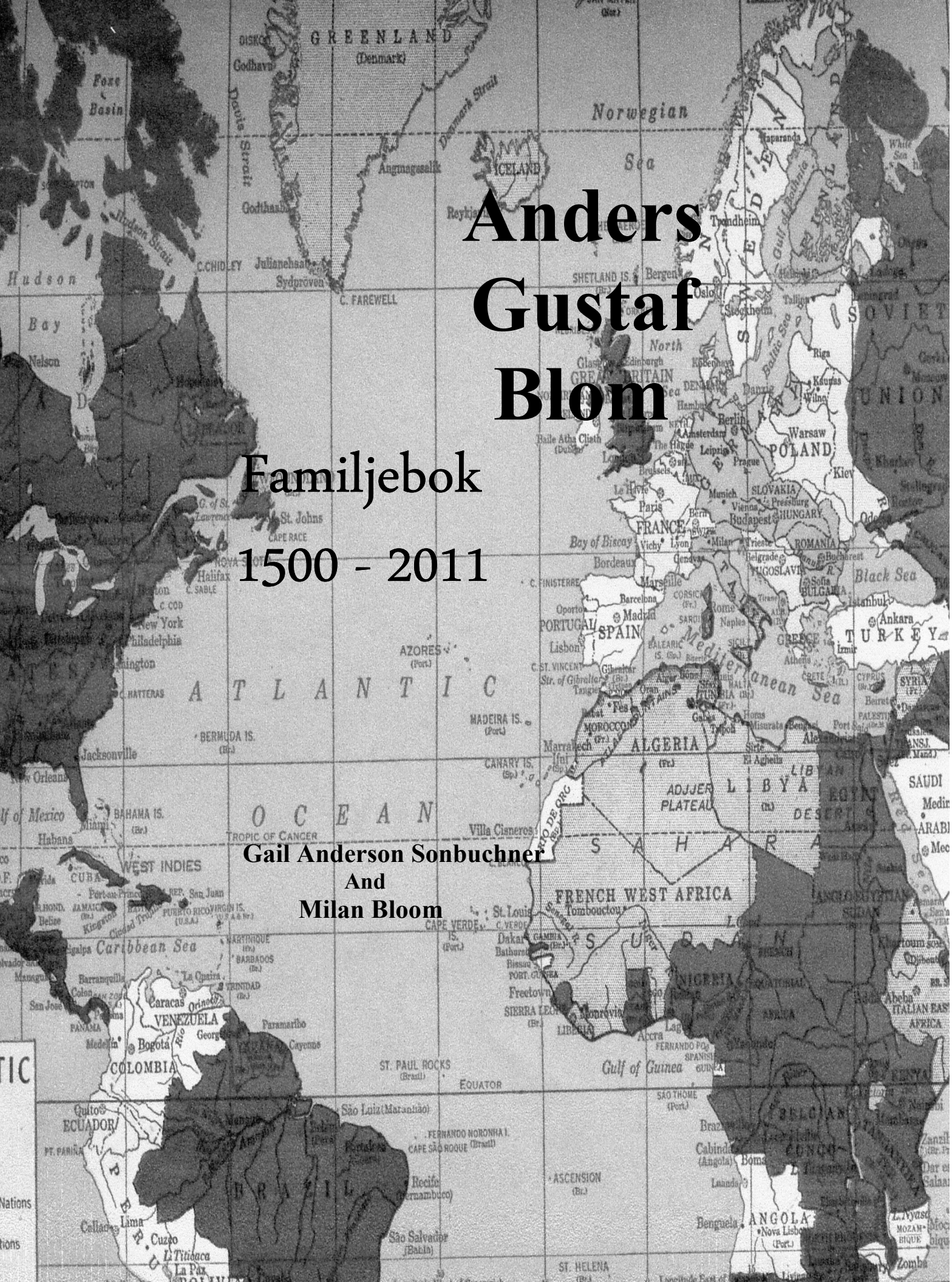


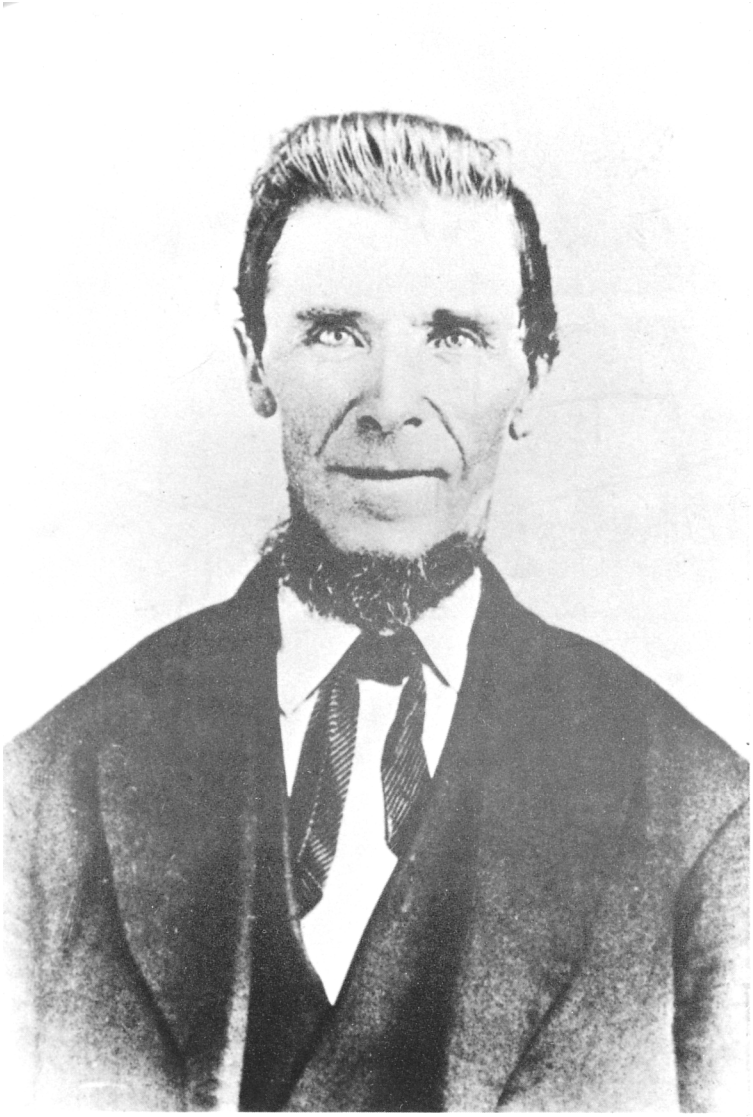
Anders Gustaf Blom

Familjebok

1500 - 2011

Gail Anderson Sonbuchner
And
Milan Bloom

Anders
Gustaf
Blom
Familjebok
1500-2011



Gustaf Bloom
1823-1897

Dedicated
to the
younger generation
that they may have a glimpse
into the world of their ancestors.

May
they add their own stories
to this book
to give future generations
a glimpse back into their
world and lives.

May
we always be thankful
for Christian ancestors.

May
we guard the heritage
that has been kept for us at
a very great price.

Editor First Edition
Gail Anderson Sonbuchner
(Marian, Estelle, Christine)

Editor – Second Edition
Milan Bloom
(Roy, Joseph)

Painting of Gustaf and Carolina's Farm circa 1901

Wenzel Bloom, son of Alfred, reported that the artist was Herbert Lindblom who was a local farm boy whose folks were artistic. Herbert went to school for this and was very good. The little person in the picture is Gilbert Bloom, son of Edward Bloom. Wenzel also reported that they (who are "they" - rhetorical question by Milan Bloom) had a great time playing in that house because it was so large and had two big fireplaces - big enough to walk through. Wenzel also reported that there were four of these paintings. (These paintings are in the possession of the Alfred, August, Joseph, and I believe, Edward families. Comment added by Milan Bloom).

Father of all, Thy care we bless,
Which crowns our families with peace;
From Thee they spring; and by Thy hand
They are and shall be sustained.?

Forward

"*If the Swensons, who have just arrived in the country, can wear hoopskirts, I guess the Blooms can!*" – Carolina Collin Bloom

This is the most complete history of the comings and goings of the Anders Gustaf Bloom family assembled to date. Additionally, it includes a chapter on Helena Blom Broberg – Gustaf's sister. It actually starts in 1500 with The Reverend Jacob Blome, the first Bloom that we know about. It isn't the first attempt at a book and in fact, it was on June 26, 1938, that there was a vote of thanks given to Aunt Minnie (Mrs. Alfred) Bloom for her work on the Bloom lineage. Also, I think that it is safe to say that the earliest information on the Blooms came from our cousin Anton Rose, (Ph.D., Columbia University, 1913). He wrote a lot – I mean a lot – based on his first-hand experiences on his 1929 trip to Sweden. What could have been, we will never know, because a suitcase full of his notes was stolen.

As you read the chapter on our Gustaf's father-in-law, Gustaf Collin, I am sure you will be particularly thankful that Cousin Anton captured Grandpa Collin's personality. If Anton's description of this gentle old patriarch doesn't touch your heart, then nothing will. Of particular importance is the scene in Chicago on about June 26, 1854. His oldest daughter dies in route to Minnesota. I should think that the pain of that day in Chicago haunted him all his life.

Well, that was then and this is now. The first edition of this book was written, organized and edited by Cousin Gail Anderson Sonbuchner. Her lineage is: Mother Marian Rose Erickson Anderson, Grandmother Emma Estella "Estelle" Rose Erickson, Great-Grandmother Amanda Kristina "Christine" Bloom Rose. Christine was second born to Gustaf and Carolina Blom. The first edition of this history was made available at the 2003 Bloom reunion and those are the ancestors that we honored on July 12th and 13th, 2003. It is they who struggled, so we might live in this free land.

Of course, not only Gail, but many others put a tremendous amount of energy into both editions with material coming from all over We needed all of you to dig deep into your into your memories to complete this book. Gail hatched the idea of for this book as she and I were having Thanksgiving dinner in 2002 with her daughter and son-in-law's family, Marla and Rod Olsons, in Castle Rock, Colorado. A lot has happened since then. .

At the 150th reunion, Gail encouraged the continuation of recording our history for there was so much more to tell. And so now we have this second edition which is twice as large as the first and goes back to 1500! I sincerely believe that or children need to know where they came from (no, my son, you didn't come from the cabbage patch) and why we are what we are.

So what about this second edition? I have been working on it for several years and it has a lot of knew and heretofore unknown information and lots of pictures. Much of this information came from two new contacts I found in Stockholm, Sweden – Mr. Leif Blom - my 5th cousin whose family line is the same as ours and also from Sweden, Ms Bodil Stefansson who is a relative of the Alfred Blooms and the Chisago County Porter families including Frank Bloom's wife Ruth Porter and the David Blooms. In this edition, the story starts in 1500 with The Reverend Jacob Blome - the first Bloom that we can identify. Also, this edition includes audio and video of Bloom events to include the 2003 reunion worship service, a 1928 Bloom reunion home movie and extracts from several 1950s home movies featuring our Marine on St. Croix relatives. I have also included information which documents some pertinent Swedish history. I have tried to keep the information factual, but of course when we reach way back in history, some informed surmising is inevitable.

With some exception, this book has been edited and proofread by one or more members of each major family branch and then, just to make sure, Gail Sonbuchner has proofread most of it. I should also mention that the new material, starting in 1500 until the time of the Bloom migration from Sweden, was edited for historical fact, by 5th cousin Leif Blom in Stockholm - and for grammar by a non family professional editor and his equally qualified wife from Colorado Springs. Hopefully, any remaining errors won't distort facts. I would list all who assisted me, but I don't remember who they all are and so I would overlook several of the ***host*** of Blooms that worked on it. In any case, I am deeply indebted to all of the help I was so graciously given. One thing is obvious, a project like this required all of us. Did I change some of your wording around? Well yes, I had to in order to make the text more clear, tie several similar inputs into a

logical flow, integrate corrections made to the first edition and make corrections based on recent research. If you read the whole book, you will notice that there is some duplication of information in different chapters, yes I know but there is a method to my madness.

Yes, we have come from a long, very long, line of God fearing, honest, hard working people. I think our grandpas and grandmas would be proud.

Milan Bloom, Colorado Springs, Colorado, April 2012

As seen by the listed contents, the **General Information** will make interesting and important reading, but to save cost, perhaps it should be read from the computer screen.
To open them, just load the applicable disk and click on the links (usually blue). After they are opened they can be printed if you like.

General Information (pgs)

King Karl XII of Sweden …….……..…….. Charles XII of Sweden.pdf (011)
Sweden from 1500 to 1905 ……..…… Sweden 1500 to 1905.pdf (117)
Why We Are Named Bloom …...……...……Why We Are Named Blom.pdf (001)
Women Waiting for their Soldiers living or dead ……..……... Women of Soldiers in War.pdf (005)
This dead man wore no underclothes …….…..... Underwear Not Worn By Swedes.pdf (004)
Swedish Farm Home in late 1500s……..….What did a Farm home look like in late 1500s.pdf (001)
How People Lived in Sweden……...……How People Lived in Sweden.pdf (002)
Discussion of Error in Gustaf Blom's DOB…..... Anders Gustaf Blom's birthday.pdf (001)
Gustaf Collin's Birth Place 1806 ……..…….. Kalleblo Rote 106.pdf (004)
Frank Adolph Porter Family …… FrankAdolphPorterandothers.pdf (033)
Alfred Bloom's Picture Album……..……...…….. Alfred's pictures.pdf (031)
Mrs. Joe Bloom's Picture album…….....Della's photo album Milan and Irene vs.pdf (018)
CarlCarlssonBlom time line by Cousin Leif Blom ….……CarlCarlssonBlomeng.pdf (002)
David's Twinkle Twinkle Sheet Music……Twinkle Twinkle Little Star by David.pdf (002)
How Joseph Bloom financed his farm .Joe Bloom Roseau County Court House Documents.pdf (047)
Reserved ……..

Total about 277

Bloom Familjebok

I consider everything below to be part of the *Bloom Familjebok*. (if you bought the book, this is what I printed and shipped) . Additionally, all audio, video and printable files are on the enclosed DVDs/CDs.

Nr of pgs
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This table of Contents ……..… …… Table of contents.pdf (002)

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029--- " Gustaf Bloom Time Line with links to Swedish documents ….. Blom (1823) Time Line.pdf (002)
031--- " Carl Olofsson Blom Estate……...……..……carl inheritance.pdf (009)
040--- " English Translation of Carl Olofsson Blom History.....Carl Olofsson Blom Family.pdf (003)

043---Chapter 2 Gustaf Collin……..……..……..…Chapter two.pdf (030)
073--- " Collin Reunion 1954 ……..…… Collin Reunion 1954.pdf (007)

080----Chapter 3 Carl J. Bloom ……..……..……...……..……...…. Chapter three.pdf (022)

102----Chapter 4 Christine Bloom Rose ……..……..……..……..…...Chapter four.pdf (057)

159----Chapter 5 Wilhelm L. Bloom ….……...……....…..……..Chapter five.pdf (018)

177----Chapter 6 Alfred Bloom ……..……...……. Chapter six.pdf (025)

202----Chapter 7 August J. Bloom ……..……...…… Chapter seven.pdf (011)

213----Chapter 8 David Bloom ……..……..…….Chapter eight.pdf (011)

222-----Chapter 9 Emma Bloom Strand ……..Chapter nine.pdf (022)
248----- " Helen Strand Wollan Autobiography ……..……...……As I remember .pdf (009)

257----Chapter 10 Frank Bloom ……..……...……Chapter ten.pdf (012)

269----Chapter 11 Edward Bloom ……..……..……..Chapter eleven.pdf (014)

283----Chapter 12 Joseph Bloom and Albert Berg ……..……..……...……Chapter twelve.pdf (054)

337----Chapter 13 Sophia and Johannes ……..Chapter thirteen.pdf (004)

342----Chapter 14 Helena Blom Broberg ……..……...…..Chapter Fourteen .pdf (039)

381----Chapter 15 Bloom Reunions ……..Chapter fifteen.pdf (037)

418----Chapter 16 Miscellaneous……..……...…….Chapter Sixteen.pdf (005)
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Audio and Video:

David's Twinkle Twinkle Little Star recorded by Laurel Cameron... Twinkle Twinkle Little Star by David.mp3
May Bloom Kling Memorial Video ……...……May Kling.wmv
Interview with Wenzel Bloom. Wenzel remembers the old days……(has slow start)…….…Wenzel.MPG
Sweden trip 2004……..…… Sweden trip Aug 2004.wmv
1928 Bloom Reunion……...…..1928 Bloom Reunion with Captions.wmv
Video From the 1950's…(may need to turn down TV brightness)....…….…. Movie from the 1950s.wmv
Video of the 2003 Bloom Reunion Service ……..……...…….....Bloom Reunion 2003 Service.wmv
1985 Interview with Roy Strand ……..……..……..…….. Roy Strand Interview.mp3
Richard Bloom 1978 Reunion Afternoon Solo……..……..…….....1978 Richard Bloom.mp3
2003 Reunion Gathering Song……..... 2003 Bloom Worship Service Speak, O Lord Thy Servant Heareth.mp3
2003 Reunion – First Anthem …..…...……..…..2003 Bloom Worship Service Holy Holy Holy.mp3
2003 Reunion – Sermon The Reverend Dan Johnson……..…….Worship Service Sermon.mp3
2003 Reunion – Offertory ……..……2003 Bloom Worship Service With a voice of Singing.mp3
2003 Recessional Hymn ……..……2003 Bloom Worship Service.God of Our Fathers.mp3
2003 Benediction and Blessing of the Meal…2003 Bloom Worship ServiceThe Lord Bless and Keep You.mp3
2003 Bloom Reunion Instructions Milan Bloom ……2003 Bloom Reunion Instructions Milan Bloom.mp3
2008 Bloom Family Settler Singers …(may need to turn up volume)…… Bloom Settler singers.wmv
2008 Bloom Family Settler Singers Encore……...……..…….. Bloom Settler Singers Encore.wmv
Reserved ……

Number of pages in main book: about 422
Optional general information pages: about 277
Total printable pages about 699

Plus Audio and Video

1. The Reverend Jacob BLOME (b.1500-Finland)

sp: Ms Housekeeper MÅRTENINTYTÄR

2, Ms Jacobsdotter BLOME

sp: Mr. ESKIL

3, Mr. Tomas ESKILSSON (b.1545-Finland;d.1620-Finland)

sp: Ms Margaretha

4, Mr. Simon BLOM (b.1600-Finland)

sp: Ms Anna KETTARA

5, Mr. Johan Simonsson BLOM (b.1630-Finland;d.1683-Finland)

sp: UNKNOWN

6, Mr Johan BLOM (b.1674-Nådendal,Finland;d.1740-Åbo Cathedral,Finland)

sp: Ms Eleonora PFEILFF (b.1696-Åbo,Finland;m.1714;d.1778-Kallela Officer')

7, Elisabeth Eleanora BLOM (b.1716-Södra Mellby,in Skåne province;d.1768)

sp: Bernt Conrad VON GERTTEN (b.1692;m.1732;d.1770)

7, Mr Olof BLOM (b.1717;d.1783-Askeberga,Östra Torsås,Sweden)

sp: Ms Catharina ANDERSDOTTER (b.1720-Virestorp,S;m.1752;d.1803-)

8. Ms Brita Stina BLOM (b.1752;d.1818)

8, Mr Carl Olofsson BLOM (b.1754-Knutsbråten,Vrigstad,JC,S;d.1819-)

sp: Ms Sara Sophia SÖDERSTRÖM (b.1766-Östra T;m.1781;d.1856-)

9. Mr. Carl Erich BLOM (b.1783-Askeberga Österg,ÖT,K;d.1783-)

9. Mr. Lars Erich BLOM (b.1783-Askeberga Österg,ÖT,K;d.1784-)

9, Ms Frederika BLOM (b.1785-Askeberga Östregård;d.1864-)

sp: Mr. Borje WERNDAHL (b.1771)

9. Ms Gustava BLOM (b.1788-Lilla Granstorp;d.1789)

9, Mr Carl Carlsson BLOM (b.1790-Lillegard in Granstorp,S;d.1862-)

sp: Ms Kristina SVENSDOTTER (b.1780-Vissefjä;m.1818;d.1821)

10. Mr. Carl Gustaf BLOM (b.1819;d.1819)

10. Ms Lovisa BLOM (b.1821-Askeberga Västregård;d.1821-)

sp: Ms Katharina ANDERSDOTTER (b.1789-Ma;m.1822;d.1862-)

10. Mr. Anders Gustaf Carlsson BLOM (b.1823-Östra Tor;d.1897-)

sp: Ms Carolina Catrina COLLIN (b.1834-B;m.1855;d.1878-)

sp: Ms Elin CARLSON (b.1829;m.1879;d.1915-Center City)

10. Mr. Johan BLOM (b.1825-Östra Torsås,Askaberga,V,S;d.1825)

10. Mr. Johannes BLOM (b.1826-Östra Torsås,A,V,SS;d.1904-)

sp: Ms Unknown

10. Ms Ingrid BLOM (b.1829-Östra Torsås,Askaberga,V,S;d.1904-)

sp: Mr. Johan Gustav P SVANMAN (b.1837;m.1868;d.1907-)

10. Ms Sophia BLOM (b.1833-Östra Torsås,A,V,SS;d.1895-)

sp: Mr. Johan Magnus JONASSON (m.1871;d.1913-)

10. Ms Sara BLOM (b.1833-Östra Torsås,Askaberga,V,SS;d.1833)

10. Ms Helena BLOM (b.1840-Östra Torsås,A,V,SS;d.1917-)

sp: Mr. Magnus BROBERG (b.1835-Älmebo;m.1863;d.1908-)

9, Mr Lars BLOM (b.1793-Södra Granstor;d.1869-Tingsryd)

sp: Ms Maria Louisa Elisabeth (b.1781)

10. Mr. Peter BLOM (b.1813-Vrigstad,Sweden)

10. Ms Lisa Sofia BLOM (b.1819-Vrigstad,Sweden)

10. Ms Dorrthea BLOM (b.1822-Ostergard)

sp: Mr. Klockare MELANDER

10. M . Ville BLOM (b.1824-Ostergard,Sweden)

- 9. Ms Gustava BLOM (b.1796-Granstorp;d.1864-Växjö)
- 9. Mr Johan BLOM (b.1799-Hermanstorp)
- 9. The Reverend Anders Gustav BLOM (b.1802-Hermanstorp;d.1865-)
  - sp: UNKNOWN
- 9. Ms Helena Sophia BLOM (b.1805-Hermanstorp,Ö.Torsås,KC)
- 9. Ms Ulrika Charlotta BLOM (b.1810-Askeberga Österg,ÖT,K;d.1892-)

8. Mr Lars BLOM (b.1756-Knutsbråten,Vrigstad;d.1805-Knutsbråten,V)
- sp: Ms Helena Beata LJUNGSTEN (b.1762;m.1781;d.1783-)
- sp: Ms Elsa Sofia HOFBERG (b.1764;m.1784;d.1834-Wirestorp,N.)
  - 9. Mr Johannes BLOM (b.1798-Vrigstad,Sweden;d.1840-Jönköpin,S)
    - sp: Ms Magdalena ARVIDSDOTTER (b.1792;m.1822;d.1862)
      - 10. Mr Lars Johan BLOM (b.1825-Nässja,Hjälmseryd;d.1901-)
        - sp: Ms Märta Brita NILSDOTTER (b.1838-S;m.1873;d.1922-)

8. Ms Anna Elisabeth BLOM (b.1758;d.1833)
8. Mr Johannes BLOM (b.1763;d.1763)
8. Mr Helena BLOM (b.1763;d.1763)
8. Mr Jonas BLOM (b.1765)

7. Gertrud Sophia, BLOM
7. Samuel BLOM
7. Mr. Johan Daniel BLOM (b.1722-Häsla Estate,Sweden;d.1722-Häsla Estate)

6. Ms. Sister 1 BLOM
6. Ms Sister 2 BLOM
6. Ms Sister 3 BLOM

2. Mr. Kristoffer BLOME (d.1584-Finland)
- sp: Ms Elisabet

Sources: URL: http://kpolsson.com/swedhis/;
My 5th Cousin Leif Blom, Stockholm, Sweden;
Wikipedia Encyclopedia; and
Ms Bodil Stefansson and Mr. Ingvar Malmberg from Torekov, Båstad Municipality, Sweden
Tom and Jan K., Grammar editors

The Reverend Jacob Blome b. Abt 1500

Our documented Blom history starts with The Reverend Jacob Blome (note spelling) who was born about 1500 and died in Finland. He was a Catholic priest and lived at Pedersöre on the Finnish west coast and from 1533 to 1538 was known as the *Parson of Pedersöre*. Since he was a priest, he was not married, but he did have a housekeeper whose father was Mårten Filpusson. Grandpa Mårten was the "Manager" of the convent at Nådendal, Finland, a nunnery (as had been Grandpa Mårten's father, Squire Filpus Jönsson). This housekeeper was the mother of Parson Jacob Blome's children, specifically a son, Kristoffer, and a daughter we know only as Miss Jacobsdotter Blome (first name unknown). Miss Jacobsdotter Blome is the key matriarch in our family tree.

Note: Pedersöre was a really large parish at the time Jacob was its priest, It stretched from Korsholm (Vasa) in the south to Kemi (which is near the Swedish border today) up in the north. It included a large part of the west coast of Finland. Today, Pedersöre is a municipal of 16 villages with about 10,000 inhabitants of which 9,000 speak Swedish! The church is situated in the town of Jakobstad (founded 1652) and the name of that town is still "Pietarsaari" in Finnish.

This is the Church at Nådendal, Finland. I believe that the nunnery Uncle Kristoffer worked on was either here or nearby.

Miss Jacobsdotter Blome b. Abt 1525

In this year, work starts to create a Swedish translation of the New Testament.
It is printed a year later.

Miss Jacobsdotter Blome was born about 1525 and died in Finland. She was married to a Mr. Eskil (Eschillus in Latin). Miss Jacobsdotter Blome's brother, Kristoffer Blome, was a well known "Sheriff" for King Johan III. This brother died in 1584.

Tomas Eskilsson b. Abt 1545 d. Abt 1620

Now then, our ancestor Eskil and his wife Miss Jacobsdotter Blome were the parents of Tomas Eskilsson born about 1545 and died in Finland about 1620. Also, as mentioned, Miss Jacobsdotter Blome's brother, our Uncle Kristoffer, was working for King Johan III in about 1550 and he (Kristoffer) was responsible for rebuilding the Nådendal Nunnery (see picture above). (Remember, Thomas' grandfather Mårten Filpusson and great-grandfather, Squire Filpus Jönsson, had been the "Manager" of this same nunnery). In 1574, Tomas was working with his uncle Kristoffer Blome. Later in about 1584 (the year Uncle Kristoffer died),

Tomas bought the Mieckula farm where our Lt. Col. Johan (see below) was born about 90 years later. By 1584, Tomas was working more directly for King Johan III as a registering clerk.

When King Johan III died in 1592, King Johan III's son, Sigismund, was going to be the king of Sweden and Finland, but he was a Roman Catholic and also the king of Poland and the laws in Sweden said that no Catholic would ever be the king of Sweden. Additionally, not even a public servant could be Catholic (and our Tomas was both a public servant and Catholic). By 1601, about 3 years prior to the appointment of King Johan III's replacement, our Tomas, the Catholic, was serving as a "writer" (i.e. secretary) in the Åbo, Finland castle no less! In 1604, King Johan III's brother, Duke Karl became "King Karl IX" of Sweden and Finland. King Karl IX was pure Protestant and tried to get rid of all Catholics and, in fact, a lot of Catholics were killed and arrested, particularly in Finland. Tomas wanted to use the surname of his mother, Miss Jacobsdotter Blome, but he couldn't use it for himself because it was associated with the Catholics. Tomas did, however, use the surname "Blome" for some of his children. Also, Tomas used the Latin form of the name "Florinus" for his sons who were going into church service and the Swedish form "Blom" for his daughters and youngest son Simon.

Simon Blom b. before 1600

Population of Sweden proper is now 1.12 million.

Simon Blom, son of Thomas Eskilsson, was born before 1600 and at one time owned his own farm he was also a merchant in Åbo, Finland, and died there. Since Simon's father, Tomas Eskilsson, gave Simon the surname of Tomas' mother that is Simon's grandmother (the Miss Jacobsdotter Blome or "Florinus" in Latin), for his children, we have been known as Blom since this time (see above for the proper use of the name "Florinus" and how we got the name "Blom"). For some years Simon had been a member of the Magistrate Court and we think he lived his whole life in Åbo, Finland. We also think he may have been the Mayor of the town. Simon Blom had a son named Johan Simonsson Blom (see below).

Johan Simonsson Blom, b. Abt 1630

Simon's son, Johan Simonsson, was born about 1630. He was a simple farmer who had to equip a horse soldier. He owned his farm which he got from his father. Johan Simonson died in Finland and was the father of Lt. Col. Johan Blom (see next block).

This farm of Johan Simonsson's was said to be a "bördes-och ryttarhemman", which means that if there was an heir it could not be sold to a person outside the family and had to remain as a family estate. Also, the farm had to have and equip a horse soldier and evidently Johan Simonsson was himself that horse soldier. This makes sense because we know that he was a cavalry soldier at the Åbo Cavalry. Incidentally, he had to cultivate the farm at the same time. When Johan Simonsson and his second wife died, their children were too young to keep the farm so a cousin, Berendt Riggertsson Munster, took it over.

Lt. Col. Johann Blom b. 1674 d. 1740

In 1685, Non-Lutherans are banished from the country.

Lt. Col. Johann Blom, son of Johan Simonsson, was born in 1674 on the Mieckula farm in Finland. This farm was purchased by his great-grandfather, Tomas Eskilsson, in about 1584. This Johann was raised in Livland, Finland, and died in Finland on Mar 6, 1740.

Johann Blom came to Stockholm, Sweden in 1714. He had been a prisoner-of-war of the Russians starting with the summer of 1709 and below are the details of his captivity.

Battle of Poltava, Ukraine July 8, 1709. I (Milan) believe that Grandpa Johann was here on this date. Painted in 1727.

Background: From 1695 to 1697, crop failures in Finland caused the ***death of nearly one-fourth*** *of* the people of Finland. Of significance is the fact that Grandpa Johann and his future wife, Eleonora Pfeiff, were living in the Finland at the time. This famine was followed by the tragic years of the *Great Northern War* (1700-1721 fought between Sweden on one side and Russia, Saxony and Denmark-Norway on the other. During this **Great Northern War** this coalition successfully contested Swedish supremacy in northern Central and Eastern Europe). It was during this war that Grandpa Johann became a prisoner of the Russians from 1709 to 1714.

I (Milan) think that it was the result of the battle of Poltava, Ukraine (July 8, 1709) that Grandpa Johann (along with 15,000 other solders) was captured. Specifically, it was at this battle that the Swedish army suffered heavy casualties and fled the field southwest toward the Dnieper River, Ukraine. When the Swedes reached the bank of the river, with the Russians in hot pursuit, they found too few boats to carry them across and had to surrender. Only King Charles XII (born 1682 and killed in battle in Norway in 1718) and an entourage of about 1,000 men fled south to the Ottoman Empire, where he set up camp at Bender. Eventually he wore out his welcome with the Turks, and so he ended up under house-arrest in Constantinople (renamed Istanbul in 1930). During his imprisonment, King Charles played chess and studied the Turkish Navy .

Johann Blom's King: Karl (Charles) XII.

The war didn't end until the fall of 1721 with the ***Peace of Nystad*t** between the Russian and Swedish empires (King Charles was already dead having been killed in war with the Norwegians). This treaty created a decisive shift in the European balance of power and, as a result, the Swedish *Imperial Era* was over and Russia emerged as a new empire.

Since the majority of the prisoners were not released until the war was over, we must ponder how Grandpa Johann got back eight years sooner than the rest, in 1714. Well, Grandpa Johann escaped!

Additionally he documents that he tried to escape the very first days as a prisoner, but was caught by local farmers and so he ended up in Moscow with all the other prisoners (about 15,000 of them). There he was in the "prisoner's parade" in front of the people of Moscow.

Then in 1714 (the year Johann returns), Leif assumes that the prisoners began to feel desperate because it was then that the Swedish Government started paying their own countrymen (prisoners of the Russians) less or nothing at all. Now we must ponder why these prisoners needed money. Well, contrary to how prisoners have been treated in our American history, these prisoners were not in a jailhouse as we think of it but rather in dwellings for which they had to pay rent. They also had to buy their own food and whatever else they needed.

At left: Tower of the German Church in Stockholm as seen from Prästgatan in Old Town, Stockholm.

Now since the prisoners were not locked behind bars, we need to ask how the Russians kept them captive and what kept the prisoners busy. Well, Cousin Leif explains: A lot of the solders worked in the construction of St. Petersburg. Some of the Swedish prisoners were well educated and had skills useful to the Russians such as surveying and making things that were unknown in Siberia. In some places they built houses for the local people and even got some money for their work.

Some of the work was really hard; for instance when working in mines or farmer's fields. But there was an agreement that if the prisoners in Siberia were badly treated, the Russian prisoners in Sweden (and there were many) would get the same treatment.

The officers had it better but were always watched and under control. They didn't have their weapons, of course, but they may have kept their swords.

We don't know for sure where Johann was being held prisoner in 1714 just before he escaped. Some sources say Solikamsk, which is on the way between European Russia and

Siberia. We do know he was in Solikamsk in 1711. Other sources indicate that he was in Moscow. Anyway, in 1714 he and about four or five of his friends managed their freedom. Some of them (but perhaps not Johann) came home by way of Archangelsk, Russia (Archangel in English) and then took a boat to Holland. (Archangelsk lies on both banks of the Northern Dvina near its exit into the White Sea in the far north of European Russia.)

Johann tells nothing about how he managed his own escape nor what route he took back, he just "pops up" in Stockholm in 1714. In his memoirs he states that he escaped **"*albeit it was not without particular cost and trouble*"** and he adds that this was not an "understatement."

(Please note that Cousin Leif Blom is sure that Johann had never been in Sweden before he showed up in 1714. Additionally, Johann documents in his own memoirs that he was brought up in Livland, Finland.)

On August 31, 1714, Johann got his rank and post back as First Cavalry Captain and it was during this first year of freedom (1714) that he met and married Eleonora Pfeiff. Johann was 40 years old and she was 18. Eleonora´s father, Daniel Pfeiff, was a judge and his family had moved from Stockholm to Åbo, Finland in 1686, where he was working in the court. *(Note: Åbo and Turku - same thing. This city is on the west side of Finland across from Sweden and it is on the Baltic, west of Helsinki.)* Judge Daniel died in 1701 and the family moved back to Stockholm. Of interest is the fact that Eleonora´s grandfather, Johan Jacob Pfeiff, was first a Reverend at St. Gertrud and in 1665 was elected bishop of Estonia. (Note: both Estonia and Finland were part of or at least ruled by Sweden at this time.)

Below we see from the church book of St. Gertrud (the German church in Stockholm) that Johann was married as documented below (note spelling here of his first and last name). (I think at this point we became half German.)

BLUM Johann/ Herr RittMeister/ mit Mad:lle Eleonora I714 l4/11
PFEIFF, Herr Assessoris (im Königl. Aboschen Hoffgericht) Daniel Pfeiffs Jungfer Tochter
Which may mean:
Cavalry Captain Johann Blum married Eleonora *PFEIFF* Nov 14, l714
Assistant Judge (in the Royal Abosch magistrate's office) Daniel Pfeiff's maiden daughter
[Abosch may have something to do with the town of Abo, Finland].

Altar of the German Church in Stockholm as seen from Prästgatan in Old Town, Stockholm.

Cousin Leif reports that St. Gertrud is still a magnificent building in Old Town, Stockholm and Eleonora and her mother, Gertrud Helena, lived less than five minutes away from the church. Leif assumes that Johann lived there too.

In early spring 1715 Johann and Eleonora left Stockholm for Skåne, Sweden, for the inspection of all military forces and also to meet King Charles XII who was expected from Constantinople, Turkey (this is were the King ended up after being put on house arrest by the Ottomans after his escape at the Dnieper River, Ukraine in 1709). Later that year, on September 16, 1715, Johann was promoted to Major by the King himself. (Note: Charles succeeded in leaving his imprisonment in Constantinople and returned to Swedish controlled Pomerania on horseback. He rode back across Europe in just fifteen days – that was fast). Then in January, 1716, Johann's first child, Elisabeth Eleonora, was born in Skåne, and in 1732 she, too, was married at St. Gertrud church to Berndt Conrad von Gertten.

On February 14, 1717, Johann's second born, Olof, (our Gustaf Blom's great-grandfather) was born in Östergötland, Sweden. Also, it was about this time that the Bloms most probably went home either to Stockholm (most probable) or to Grandpa Major Blom's residence about 30 to 35 kilometers (about 21 U.S. miles) northwest of Stockholm. Leif doesn't think they actually stayed for any length of time because there is no record of servants there (naturally Major Blom had servants). Perhaps Johann had his horses

there and had a leaseholder for farm management. We do know that from 1717 to 1720, the Johann Bloms had a residence in Kalmarnäs which is 20 km (12 US miles) northeast of Stockholm.

In 1720 they went further north to Rödön in Jämtland, where Johann was assigned as a Lieutenant Colonel. Leif knows they lived there, and he also knows that Johann took several sick-leaves to cure himself of some sickness (it does appear that he had permission to visit some type of spa in 1725 and 1726). Rödögården in Jämtland is 600 km (370 US miles) north of Stockholm.

Johann Blom retired from his service after 35 years in 1727 and then he and his wife, Eleonora, settled in Meldola, Pemar, south of Åbo, Finland.

By 1723, Johann and Eleonora had already bought a residence in Finland (but apparently didn't move there until retirement, although possibly Eleonora was already there). They must have had their daughter Gertrud Sophia (born in 1725) with them but where his other children, Elisabeth Eleonora and Olof (our direct ancestor) were, we don't know. He thinks these two lived in Stockholm with Eleonora´s mother.

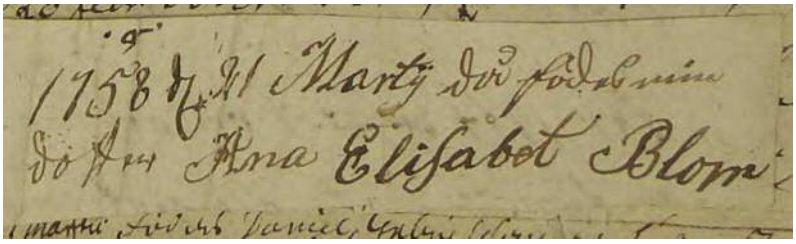
At Meldola, Finland, Johann and Eleonora had another three children and in 1735 they bought a house in Åbo, Finland, while still living at Meldola.

By March 1740, Johann has died at 66 years old and he is buried in the Cathedral of Åbo in Finland. His widow, Eleonora lives another 38 years and spent her last years with her youngest son Johann Petter and his family at Kallela, Masku, Finland. Johnan Petter was a captain then. She is buried in the church of Masku. She was 82 years old.

Cathedral of Åbo in Finland

Olof Blom (b. Feb 14, 1717 in *Östergötland* - d. Oct 20, 1783)
Son of Johann Blom
(*Ö*stergötland is a part of Sweden - north of Småland)

In 1751, Grandpa Olof settled in Knutsbråten, as a court farrier for the 1st Major's Company, north of Vrigstad. Then on August 24, 1751, at 34 years of age, Olof entered farrier service for the Royal Regiment and he moved to the residence provided for him.



When Olof´s fourth child Anna Elisabeth is born in 1758, there is no notation in the church-book. Instead there is a small piece of paper fixed with glue at the right place in the book.
And this is written by Olof himself and says that "1758 dn 21 Marty då födes min dotter Ana Elisabet Blom".
I (Leif) had seen that paper before, but I had never looked at the back side of the paper. And there is a short information, also written by Olof´s hand that says that "År 1717 den 14 February då födes jag uti Östergötland." Beyond this, the paper is cut, so we don't know what else Olof wrote.

Cousin Leif does not know for sure what Olof was doing before 1752 and he wonders how he could be a farrier and join the Cavalry when he was already 35 years old. But he is not on any military rolls before that.
What we think is that he was working at his sister, Elisabeth Eleonora, and her husband's estate (Torarp). They lived quite close at Torero and Elisabeth's husband was a former lieutenant about 20 years older than Olof.

The letter below is from our Grandpa Olof Blom's merit-list. The source of information is our cousin Leif Blom, born in 1941, who lives in Stockholm, Sweden: Leif translated it as best he could and he

indicates that it is not written in the way we express ourselves today but he says the original is well written and spelled.

From Grandpa Olof Bloom (Gustaf Blom's great-grandfather): **"The year 1751, the 2nd August I came here to Småland´s Cavalry and the Major Company and in 1758, I went with the second commending to the war going on in Pomerania** [*Note:* Pomerania was made a Swedish possession in 1640. Comment added by Milan Bloom] **on the south shore of the Baltic Sea, the first campaign at Vorberlin and in the year 1759 I was hurt at Stenhagen (a neighborhood of Helsinki, Finland), shot in my right leg and there I lost my horse and all my equipment, and the second attack at Ancklam, where the General Manteuffel was taken prisoner and then at Neuen Carl and Maldin, at Tessenberg Schermgesen. I was alone commanded."**

Cousin Leif, clarifies: "What the second commending means is that one contingent had already been sent but more troops were needed and Olof was in the second contingent."

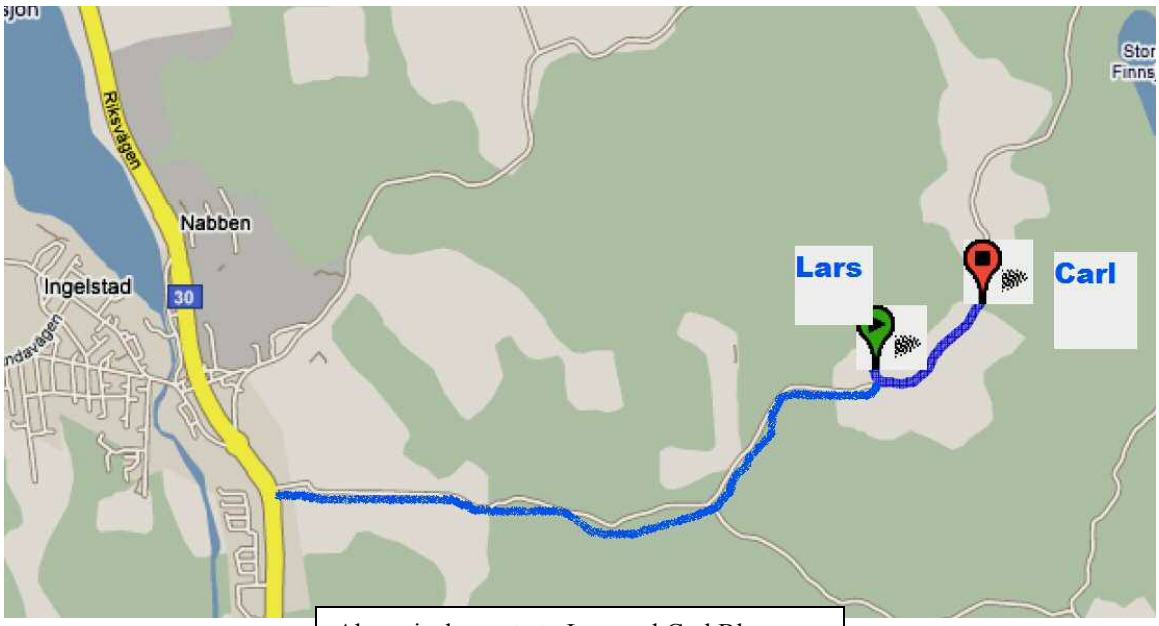
Also, Leif thinks he means that he was not in any battle at these places, he was just there without fighting because he was probably so badly hurt that he could not participate in the struggle.
But then again, it's not quite clear what he means.

Pomerania is where Olof was. Some of the places he mentions are: Anclam f.i. or Neuen Carl, sometimes called Prussia. →→

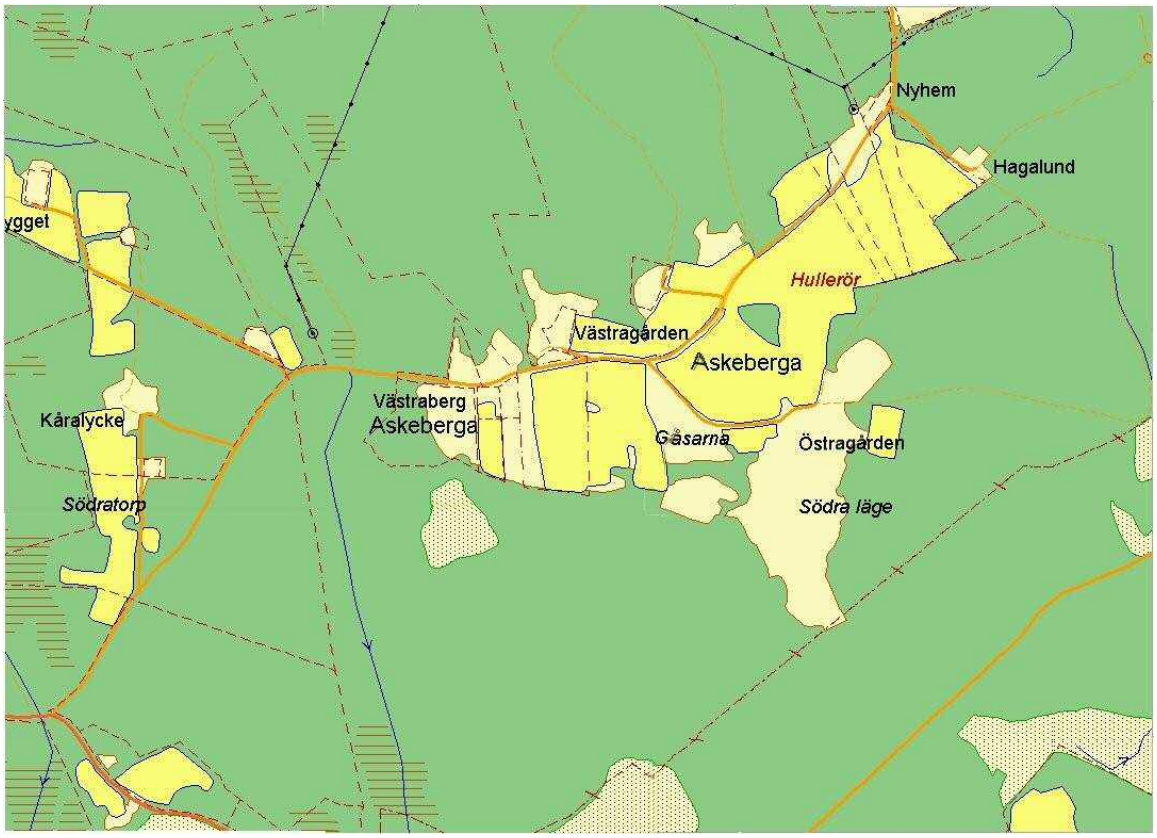
Then later on in his merit list of 1774 (five years before he leaves service) he documents that he has to have his leg cut off. Cousin Leif thinks he may have had osteonecrosis which occurs when the bones lose their blood supply. The bones die and eventually collapse leading to pain and arthritis. Was the loss of his leg a direct result of being shot in the leg? Well, maybe - but cavalry soldiers often fell off their horses since sometimes the horse was shot and tumbled down, Then the rider would get a leg under the horse and break his leg. That happened to Olof's father too. Of interest is the fact that an injury to the bone is sometimes the cause of osteonecrosis

In spite of Olof's injuries he was still on the military rolls in 1778 and nothing is mentioned about his leg. Then in 1779 he retired from military service and still no mention about his leg. [If he lost a leg in service, you would think it would have been mentioned when he retired. Comment added by Milan Bloom.]

Olof stayed on as the Regiment farrier as long as he could in spite of his pulmonary problems, a very common problem for people working in the fire and smoke of the blacksmith. The normal age to retire was age 55 for soldiers, but, as we know Olof started late in his life and 30 to 35 years of service gave a full pension pay, so he didn't retire until age 62. He died from consumption (we would say "tuberculosis") in 1783. Of Olof and his ancestors, only Olof lived in Sweden for a significant period of time (Olof's father did live there for about two years). The rest of Olof's ancestors remained in Finland.

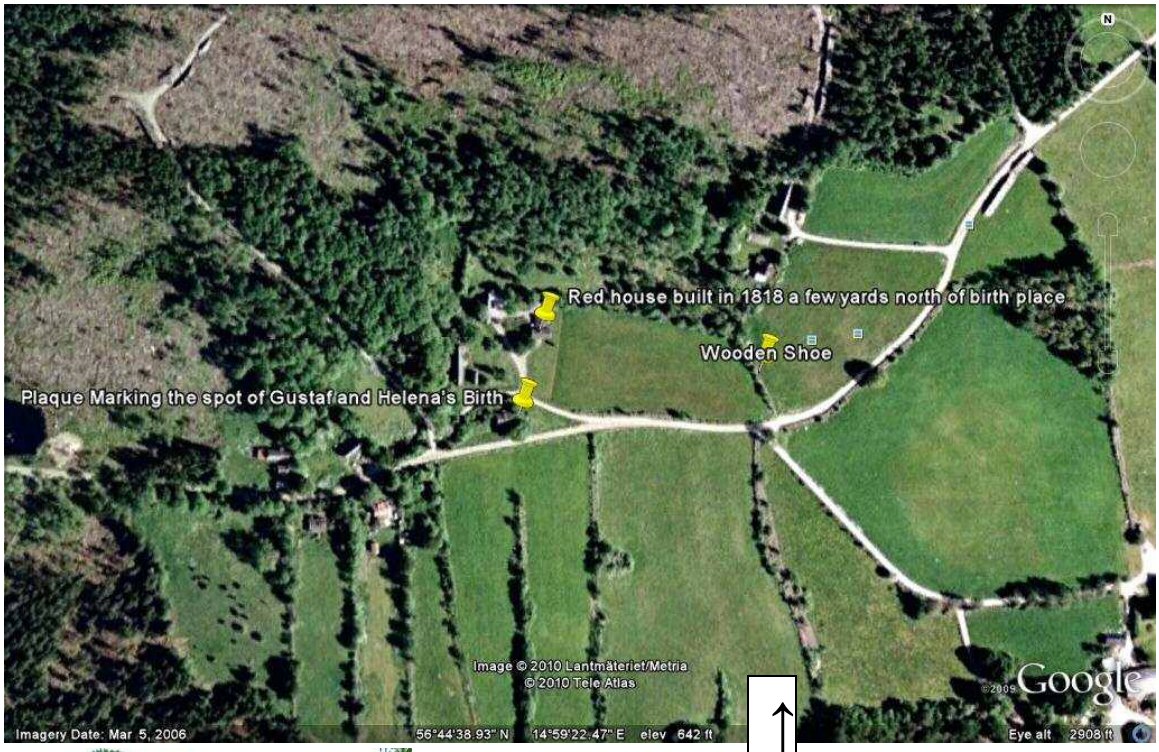


Above is the route to Lars and Carl Blom farms. Route plotted from Ingelstad using highway 30. Distance from Ingelstad to the farms is less then 5 US miles



1949 map of Västergård Askeberga
Compare to highway map above.

Carl and Lars farms in Västergård Askeberga east of Ingelstad as found on this **1827** map.


Red house built in 1818 a few yards north of birth place
Wooden Shoe
Plaque Marking the spot of Gustaf and Helena's Birth
Image © 2010 Lantmäteriet/Metria
© 2010 Tele Atlas
Imagery Date: Mar 5, 2006
56°44'38.93" N 14°59'22.47" E elev 642 ft
Eye alt 2908 ft
Google

The Swedes from Småland were known in Minnesota as the "Wooden Shoe People." This picture was taken just a few yards from where Gustaf and Helena Blom were born. Picture taken by David Broberg (family of Helena) as he approached from the north east side coming from Rottnen lake and Hwy 25 (June 2008). See location of shoe in picture above (see vertical arrow above).

Carl Olofsson Blom (Carl Sr.) March 15, 1754 - April 3, 1819 age 65
His wife Sara Sophia Söderström July 10, 1766 – July 10, 1856 age 90
and his son:
Carl Carlsson Blom (Carl Jr.) April 16, 1790 - March 2, 1862 age 72
1st wife Kristina Svensdotter February 20, 1780 – Oct 15, 1821 age 41
2nd wife Katharina Andersdotter March 31, 1789 – 1852 age 63

The "Bloms" went by "Bloom" in America because that is a direct translation of, and means the same as, the Swedish word "Blom."

Providing accurate Carl Blom Sr. and Carl Blom Jr. (Gustaf Blom's grand-father and father) stories presents a unique challenge. In fact, it was easier for me to get the facts right for our Grandpa Johann Blom, who was born a century earlier. My (Milan's) difficulty stems from the fact that, although Cousin Anton Rose left us with a summary of their lives, recent research done by our Cousin Leif Blom from Stockholm makes it more logical that some of Anton's information actually belongs to Carl Sr.'s father, Olof Blom, who was born 1717. On the other hand, since Anton was born in 1877 and visited Sweden in 1929, it is difficult to debate his facts. I suspect that Anton heard our ancestral stories from his elders (he was already 20 years old when our Gustaf died) and perhaps the story teller didn't always know what event belonged to what generation. So with some trepidation I will attempt to present as accurate a rendering of the lives of these two grandpas as is possible. It should be noted that I have seen Anton's material which was originally transcribed by Gail Anderson Sonbuchner in the fall of 2002. But of course, all Gail had to work with was Anton's difficult to read handwritten material and she typed what she saw. Gail was the first compiler of this Gustaf Blom Family book. [This introductory comment by Milan Bloom 2010.]

Also, in the history presented at the 1953, 1978 and 2003 Bloom reunions, we find the following statement which is probably not true:

"The first Bloom that we know about came from Schleswig-Holstein. He had joined the Swedish Calvary in Pomerania and had been sent to serve in Stockholm. Later the Blom family settled in Småland." Whether this statement can be attributed to Anton, I don't know however …….

Please note that cousin Leif Blom can find no evidence that the first Blom was ever in Schleswig-Holstein and, in fact, the first Blom that we have a record of was the Catholic priest **The Reverend Jacob Blome** (note spelling) born about 1500 and lived his whole life in Finland. Without realizing it, whoever the historian was who wrote the above must have been relating a two hundred year old and at least partially accurate legend about our Grandpa Olof Blom. Pomerania is near and to the east of Schleswig-Holstein and both locations are on the Baltic Sea

Story Version 1: Carl Sr.**,** born March 15, 1754 and died April 3, 1819 at age 65. Appointed as the Regimental Farrier to the Second Major's company in 1775. At this time he was a 21-year old–farrier. Although he was an ex-cavalry man (as was his father), he ended up very poor (In one of Anton's writings, Anton suggests that this Carl ended up poor. In another one of Anton's writings he suggests that it was Carl Jr. who was poor. My (Cousin Leif's) research would indicate that if anybody was poor, it would have been Carl Jr.). He married Sara Sofia Söderström on Dec 28, 1781, and they lived in a "backstuga" where two boys and two girls were born. We do have reason to believe that his daughter, Fredrika, and husband lived in the big house and mom and dad lived in the small backstuga. (Note: father Carl and daughter Fredrika implemented the concept of the "undantag" which meant that daughter Fredrika had a contract stating how much corn, rye, potatoes and furnace wood and other supplies were to be delivered to Carl Sr.'s backstuga every year. The undantag was the process through which a farmer would pass on his farm to a descendent. Today, in Sweden, we have the concept of the "life estate" but the old man and his lady don't get such things as food, wool, wood, sheep and chickens, so in modern times the old folks have to be self supporting, except for their dwelling. **(continued next block)**

Gustav IV Adolph, King of Sweden from 1792-1809. He abdicates the throne and is imprisoned in Gripsholm castle.

Backstuga. Backe – Hill; Stuga - Cottage

Story Version 1 continued: There is some thinking that Carl Sr. lost a leg (as did his father) while he was a horse soldier but there is no evidence that he lost it in battle because Leif knows he was never in battle. Being a horse solder was dangerous, so he may have had a horseback accident costing him his leg while on military duty. What we do know is that he was on military duty in 1816 when there was an inspection of the Regiment and Carl Sr.'s horse(s) and equipment. In the record of this inspection there is no mention concerning his leg. He died just three years later in 1819 from "Torrvärk" which means "rheumatism, gout or arthritis - pain in the joints." His military assignment was that of the "Regementshovslagaren" which translates to "The farrier of the regiment" (the one who shoes the horses and most likely the blacksmith). There was an eyewitness account by a Mr. Palmer from Forest Lake, Minnesota (an immigrant from Sweden), who allegedly saw this Carl in a uniform heavily adorned with Medals! I (Milan) don't know what to make of this given that Carl Sr. died in 1819 and I don't believe this Mr. Palmer could have been old enough to have seen this Carl. [I (Milan) believe this report was from Anton Rose].

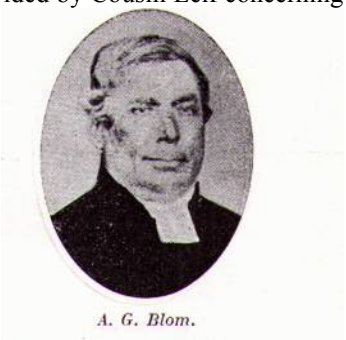
We believe that Carl Sr. was at one time living at Västergård, Askeberga, Östra Thorsås (*Eastern Thorsen and part of the Växjö Municipality today*), Konga hårad (the court for this judicial unit was located in Ingelstad). He then moved to Lillegård (*little farm*) in Granstorp (*Granstorp is the name of a place -probably a farm or a village. Gran = spruce, torp = croft*) of Östra Thorsås and then moved his family from Lillegård to Östergård *(Eastern Farm)* in Askeberga in 1790. This may be where son Carl was born.

Story Version 2: Carl Sr. Born March 14, 1754, he was the "Regementshovslagaren" which translates to "The farrier of the regiment" (the one who shoes the horses, most likely also the blacksmith). (Please note that since this Carl was never in Stockholm, the rest of this paragraph makes for good family legend but, as written, it is most likely not true – comment Milan Bloom.) Well, so anyway, let it be said that Bloom tradition has it that Grandpa Carl Sr. performed his military function in King Gustaf Adolph's stable *(Gustav IV Adolph, King of Sweden from 1796-1809 and then Gustav IV Adolph's uncle Charles XIII, King of Sweden from 1809-1818 and of Norway 1814-1818).* Of course it is true that this Carl was a soldier in the army of these two kings but the story may be overstated. Also, another family tradition holds that this Carl was in the Swedish "religious" war where he lost a limb and received several medals. Since the religious war took place from 1618 to 1648 it can't be true. It even pre-dates our most noteworthy soldier, Grandpa Johann Blom. This war was also called the 30 year war and the Swedish army may have destroyed up to 2,000 castles, 18,000 villages and 1,500 towns in Germany which would have been one-third of all German towns.

Story Version 3: Our Cousin Leif documents Carl Sr.'s residential moves below. I (Milan) don't profess to understand all of it but it may become important to future researchers and/or members of the Bloom family traveling to Sweden. Also, it may, in some way contradict something written in previous pages and Cousin Leif writes:

"Carl Olofsson Blom (Carl Sr.) moved from his home at Knutsbråten, Vrigstad, Jönköping County. He replaced the farrier, Erland Fagerström, who had retired in 1775. From September 2, 1775 Carl was the company farrier. In 1770 there was a Wäxjö Company but in 1775 it was changed to 2nd Major's Company, Småland´s Cavalry. Carl did not join the 1775 inspection (elsewhere is says he did) so I think he left for Östra Torsås in 1776. In 1778, there is another inspection and he is listed with one horse. In February 1778 he and his elder sister Britta Christina are listed as sponsors in the baptismal register. Also, the register says that they are living at Askeberga Östergård, so I think this was the "residence" of the company farrier. There is no parish catechistical register until 1782, so I can't tell where he was living when he got to Östra Torsås in 1776. The problem with these surmising is, that I (Leif) can't tell if the earlier farrier, Erland Fagerström was living there. At that time it was "Thorsås" and a hundred years later it was known as "Östra Torsås". I think that Brita Christina didn't leave Askeberga until this Carl was married in 1781 and perhaps she stayed longer, but I don't see her in the records after 1782. So I would say that Carl Olofsson Blom moved from his home at Knutsbråten, Vrigstad, Jönköping County to Östra Torsås, Kronoberg County, where he lived at the farrier´s residence at Askeberga Östergård."

Story Version 4: In one of the two Anton's writings that we have, Anton suggests that Carl Sr. was poor. So at this point I, (Milan) will insert some more information provided by Cousin Leif concerning Carl Sr.'s economic situation (Note: there is another Anton writing that more correctly states that it was Carl Jr. that was poor).


A. G. Blom.

Carl Sr.'s son The Reverend Anders Blom b. 1806

Dear Milan,

I don't think that Carl Sr. (Gustaf's grandfather) was as poor as Anton relates. He married a girl who is not at all poor. His wife's father was an inspector, she had only one brother and her mother was from a well situated family. Since Carl was the regiment's farrier, he has a better soldier's cottage than ordinary soldiers.

When his son Lars (Gustaf's uncle) returned with his wife, Maria Elisabeth, from Wirstorp, the situation got even better because she was a rich widow. In fact the church book says that she was wealthy and I think they built a new house at Askeberga and enlarged the grounds.

Carl Sr. arrived in Östra Torsås in 1775 and participated in the military inspection of August 29th and September 2nd of that year. Also, that year he settled in as a farrier. [I know Its been mentioned earlier that he didn't arrive until 1776 and didn't join the 1775 inspection – comment added by Milan Bloom.]

Carl was even able to send two of his sons Johan and Anders Gustaf (born 1802) to school at Wäxjö and his daughters had well situated husbands. The poorest children of Carl Blom Sr. may have been his daughter, Ulrika Charlotta, and his farmer son, Carl Blom Jr.

When Carl Sr. dies, there is a good inheritance for everyone and in fact, I think that this Carl's family was less poor than his father, Olof. – Leif.

In a separate e-mail, Cousin Leif adds this:

When Carl Sr. (born 1754) dies, his widow Sara suggests that Johan and Anders Gustaf, her two youngest sons (our Gustaf's uncles), should not get their part of the inheritance because they had been sent to school in Växjö, but the other children thought that was unfair, so they all got the same amount. There is a document at the Arkiv Digital search forum that documents this, but I have not got it myself - only read it some years ago. I think the net value of the estate was 1, 570 Riksdaler [An ox was worth 25 Rd, a good cow 14 and a horse 16 Rd].

Carl Carlsson Blom (Carl Jr.) April 16, 1790 to March 2, 1862

Carl Blom, farmer and landowner, Winnamåla (Älmeboda area), married October 26, 1818 to housemaid Stina Svensdotter (born 1780) in Wissefjärda – she being ten years older than Carl.

One son, 1819, Carl Gustaf, who died the same year. Stina (Carl's wife) died in October 1821 in childbirth in Askeberga.

Carl married again in 1822 to Catharina Andersdotter (born 1789, died 1852)

Children: Anders Gustav born November 1823.
Johan born May 1825 (died same year).
Johannes born August 1826
. Ingrid born February 1829.
Sophia and Sara born September 1833 (twin Sara died that same year).
Helena born August 1840.
All children born in Askeberga

There seem to be two separate stories concerning our Gustaf Blom's father, Carl Carlsson Blom (Carl Jr.). I usually subscribe these old tales to our Cousin Anton Rose. I don't know what to make of it because he wouldn't have written different stories about the same person. However, we think that Anton wrote the first version and I have reason to believe that, later, Anton rewrote the second version.

Story 1. [*Most of the following was taken from notes in Anton Rose's handwriting. However I have added additional facts as I have discovered them*] **Carl Carlsson** Blom was born on April 16, 1790, in "hofslagare heregården" [*the mansion of the farrier*] to Carl Olofsson Blom and Sara Sofia Söderström. He was married and was farming at Thorsås Parish in Västergård of Askeberga, Östra Thorsås about 1822. It was then that he married his second wife (our matriarch) who was a pretty girl from Thorsås Parish by the name of **Katarina Andersdotter** (b. March 31, 1789, d. of breast cancer on April 24, 1852 in Askeberga). Carl Olofsson's family did not want him to marry her. She was a small and dark-haired woman who was very active. They had six children: Ingrid, Gustaf, Johannes, Sophia, Sara and Helena (there were two other children from his first marriage). Their home was made of logs with vertical siding on the outside. It was one hundred years old when Gustaf was born in 1823. (In 1929 Gustaf's oldest grandson, Anton Rose, visited Sweden and found the old homestead still standing and well preserved.) Carl died in 1862 at the age of almost 72. His daughters, Sofia and Ingrid, remained in Sweden to look after him until he died; they then came to America in 1866. Eventually all but one of Gustaf's brothers and sisters came to Minnesota; only brother Johannes did not join them in America. When Sofia and Ingrid came to America, Gustaf's oldest daughter, Kristina, age 8, remembers them as "grand" ladies. There are two reports concerning when Helena came to America, one has it that she came in 1858 and that date is supported by her obituary plus our Cousin Leif Blom in Sweden. Another report says 1862. (See obituary on page 372 in this book).

Story 2.

Carl Carlsson Blom was born in 1790 on Lillegård (little farm) in Granstorp (Granstorp is the name of a place; such as a farm or a village i.e. Gran = spruce, torp = croft). He moved to Älmeboda, serving as a dräng (farm hand), then joined the cavalry as a private (his father was a cavalry officer). He did not remain in service long enough to be a corporal. The Regiment was headquartered in Kalmar. (**Note**: **Cousin Leif Blom has found no evidence that Carl Carlsson Blom was ever in the military).**

Kalmar is a city in Småland in the south-east of *Sweden*, situated by the Baltic Sea

He married Kristina Svensdotter on October 26, 1818, a native of Vissefjärda, Kulman Län b. Feb 2, 1780. He left the cavalry and returned to Askeberga in 1820 and then Kristina died on October 15, 1821. He married again and settled down in a Backstuga in Västergård. At some time he worked for his brother (Lars?) on Östergård (eastern farm). He married Katarina Andersdotter of Thorsjö (Thor's beautiful lake). Katarina was born on Månsgård in Östra Thorsås on Mar 31,1789 **Continued next block.**

Continued from story 2 - block above: [Östra means "eastern." Today it is part of the Växjö Municipality, a little north of Ingelstad.] Katarina developed breast cancer and died in 1852 and Carl in 1862. Carl Carlsson children: Anders Gustaf – our patriarch (Nov 23, 1823), Johannes (Aug 27,1826), Ingrid (Feb 29, 1829), the twins Sofia and Sara (Sep 29, 1833) and Helena (Aug 9, 1840). Helena married Magnus Broberg in 1863 and from her there are several descendants - all born in America.

Carl Jr.'s brother, **Lars Blom** in 1793 was born in Östergård Askeberga Östra Thorsås. Like his father, he too was a "Regement Hofslagare" which means "the regiment's farrier." It is believed that Lars and his brother Johan both served in the war of 1809 against Finland and against the Russians. Lars married **Maria Louisa** (b. 1781). They had a daughter, **Dorrthea** (b. 1822) who married a **Mellander**. This Mellander was a "klockare". They had a daughter, Sophia (b. 1853), who married Albin Sandberg.

Note: The klockare was the parish clerk and it was his duty to help the Pastor. He had to teach the children the Bible plus reading, writing and counting. He was free from the responsibility of having travelling people live in his house and was free from having to provide people with a carriage. Johan Peter Millender's father, Jonas, was also a parish clerk at Östra Torsås (Eastern Torsås).

Feb 29, 1829 Ingrid Carlsdotter Blom Oct 26, 1904

Ingrid was a quiet, well-poised matron, a competent manager who had more than average intelligence and was a good business dealer. She was a housekeeper for the pastor in Trangonia and in Växjö where there were relatives. There was a cousin who was a midwife who Ingrid thought neglected her own home. There was also a cousin, Hjarta, and a cousin married to Skrivare Widen, a correspondent to Gustaf. Kristina thought his script was as perfect as print! She stayed in Sweden until Carl died in 1862 (age 72) and then came to America. In 1868 she married **Johan Gustav Petersson Svanman** (b.11-15-1837; d.1-28-1907). He was noted as the "meekest of men". They farmed in Parkers Prairie, Minnesota and had no children. They later bought forty acres a few miles southeast of Scandia, Minnesota adjacent to the Magnuson pioneer homestead. Ingrid took in Frank Bloom when his mother died. He was seven years old and lived there two to three years. Ingrid managed her husband and his farm very well. When Gustaf Blom's wife Carolina died in 1878, Ingrid took care of Gustaf's son, Frank, for two years. Frank was six years old when his mother died. So who took care of infant Joseph?

Story of Gustaf Bloom (Blom) – Son of Carl Carlsson and Katarina Andersdotter. Some of the information was taken from "The Svedberg Saga" written in 1996 by Marjorie Johnson Svedberg, granddaughter of August Bloom. A Minneapolis Star article published by George Peterson in 1953 was also used. For the most part, Milan Bloom used the family history originally written by Mrs. Alfred Bloom and subsequently compiled and reproduced by Reverend Wenzel Bloom.

Anders Gustaf Blom – Time Line 1823 to 1853 – Kronoberg län, Sweden

HFL = household examination; d.= died; v.= married; f.= born; I-O= immigration emigration: supporting files hyperlinked in Bloom (1823) Time line (see table of contents).

Östra Torsås 1815 – 1825	Carl Blom (1790), Anders father, moves into a farm in Askeberga Västergård in **1820** with his wife Christina Svensdotter. They have come from Älmeboda parish, Winnamåla Norregård.	HFL 850.8.54400.pdf
1821 Oct 15	Christina dies in childbirth, as does the child Lovisa on Nov 5	d. 850.18.97000.pdf

1823 Mar 7	Carl marries Catharina Andersdotter from Thorsjö Månsgård	v. 850.18.77800.pdf
1823 Nov 23	Anders Gustaf' is born, parish of Östra Torsås, farm Askeberga Västergård	f. 850.18.90000.pdf
Östra Torsås 1826 - 1831	Johannes and Ingrid are born	HFL 850.9.91700.pdf
1826 Aug 21	Johannes' birth record	f. 850.18.91100.pdf
1829 Feb 29	Ingrid's birth record	f. 850.18.92300.pdf
Östra Torsås 1832 – 1840	Twins Sophia and Sara are born; Sara dies a month later; Anders leaves home and Helena is born	HFL 850.11.24200.pdf
1833 Sep 29	Sophia and Sara's birth record	f. 850.18.94300.pdf
1833 Oct 22	Sara's death record	d. 850.18.98100.pdf
Östra Torsås 1832 - 1840	Anders leaves home in **1839** to work on his uncle Lars' farm in Askeberga Östra gård	HFL 850.11.25100
1840 Aug 9	Helena's birth record	f. 850.19.102700
Östra Torsås 1841 - 1850	Anders at Lars' place in Askeberga Östra gård p.325, leaves in **1843** to go to Nöbbele. Lars name is listed on the prior page, 65500	HFL 850.12.65600 HFL 850.12.65500
Nöbbele 1840 – 1850	Anders at Nöbbeled Prestegård p.98, leaves in **1844** to go to Linneryd	HFL 458.17.30900
Linneryd 1839 - 1845	Anders at Götjahult Södregård p.375, moves to p.331 in **1845** Anders at Vrångebo Norregård p.331	HFL 833.24.75700 HFL 833.24.71200
Linneryd 1845 – 1851	Anders at Vrångebo Mellangård p.367, moves to p.415 in **1846** Anders at Götjahult Södregård p.415, leaves in **1847** to go to Älmeboda	HFL 833.28.13800 HFL 833.28.18600
Älmeboda 1846 – 1850	Anders at Skärsjöhult p.233, moves to Skärsnäs p.261 in **1849** Anders at Skärsnäs p.261, leaves in **1850** to go to Linneryd	HFL 863.12.89900 HFL 863.12.92800
Linneryd 1845 - 1851	Anders at Bro Håkansgård p.315	HFL 833.28.8500
Linneryd 1852 - 1860	Anders at Bro Håkansgård p.310, leaves for America in **1853**	HFL 833.29.58400
1853 May 11	Anders signs out of Linneryd parish to emigrate to America	I-O 833.32.102900

Parishes	Villages or Farms
Östra Torsås (850)	Askeberga Västergård (Westregård); Thorsjö Månsgård; Askeberga Östra gård;
Nöbbele (458)	Nöbbeled Prestegård
Linneryd (833)	Götjahult Södregård ; Vrångebo Norregård; Vrångebo Mellangård; Bro Håkansgård
Älmeboda (863)	Skärsjöhult; Skärsnäs; Winnamåla Norregård

Error in Gustaf Blom's DOB……..……..……..Anders Gustaf Blom's birthday.pdf

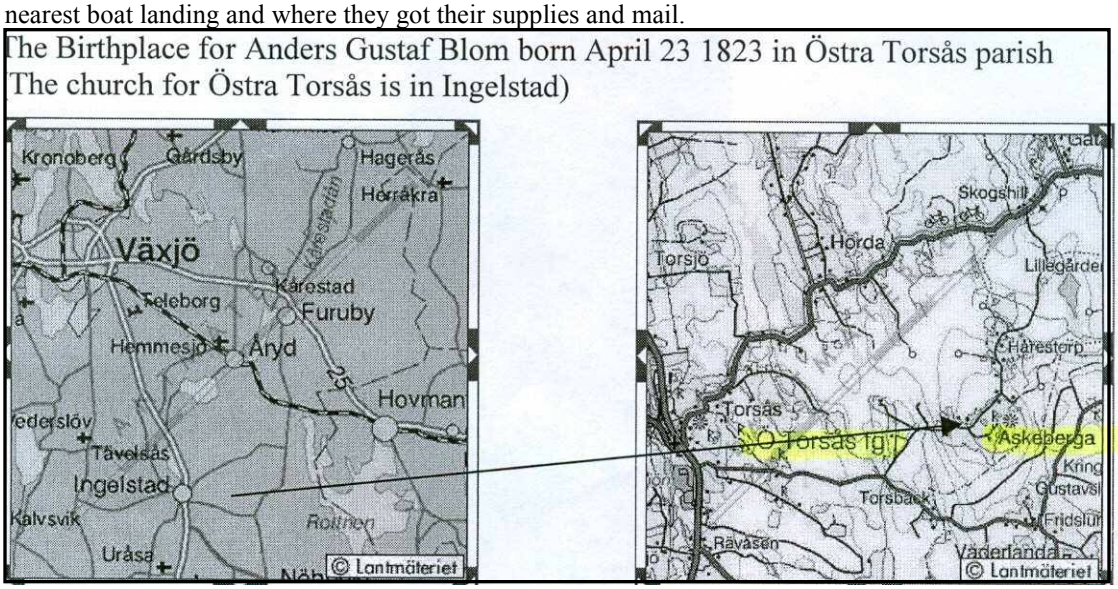
Gustaf Blom – early years

Nov 23, 1823 Anders Gustaf Blom Oct 3, 1897

(Corrected DOB based on research done by Thord Johnson in 2007)

Gustaf Bloom was born in Thorsås soken, Småland, Sweden. In the spring of 1853, he stood at the rail of a ship watching Göteborg (Gothenburg), Sweden, fade from sight. He was the eldest and the first to migrate to the United States and settle in Minnesota. There were relatively few emigrants the next year in 1854 on account of the cholera scare. There were more and more in subsequent years which was disturbing to the editorial writers of the Gamla'Smalar-id. They worried over the depopulation of the countryside. At thirty years of age, Gustaf was a fairly tall, well-built man with dark hair and a short beard. He was full of health, self-confidence and anticipated his arrival in the Territory of Minnesota, United States of America. As he watched the wake of the ship, he thought of his family in Östra Thorsås in Småland.

Gustaf Blom had left the farm to go to Växjö where he served as the rättare (overseer) for the Commissioner of Mines. The urge to go to America, the land of opportunity, was great. In the spring of 1853 he was willing to face the wilds of America. Traveling from Boston to Chicago by rail, cart and riverboat to Stillwater, Territory of Minnesota, he found his way to the Swedish settlement that was just opening on the shores of "Svedlake" *(Chisago Lake, Center City, Minnesota).* He found what he thought was a good place to settle down by a small lake, lots 7 and 8, section 7, township 33, range 19 west. He staked out this property and went to the Federal Land Office in Stillwater to buy it from the federal government for five dollars an acre. The farm was not far from Franconia which was the nearest boat landing and where they got their supplies and mail.



On the shores of a lake *(Bloom's Lake)* Gustaf built a log cabin "maybe eight feet long and six or seven feet wide and a bit over his shoulders on the long sides in height". Later, as reported by Anton Rose, this log cabin was moved and then used as a sheep shelter in the barnyard. *(Note: At the 1988 Bloom reunion*

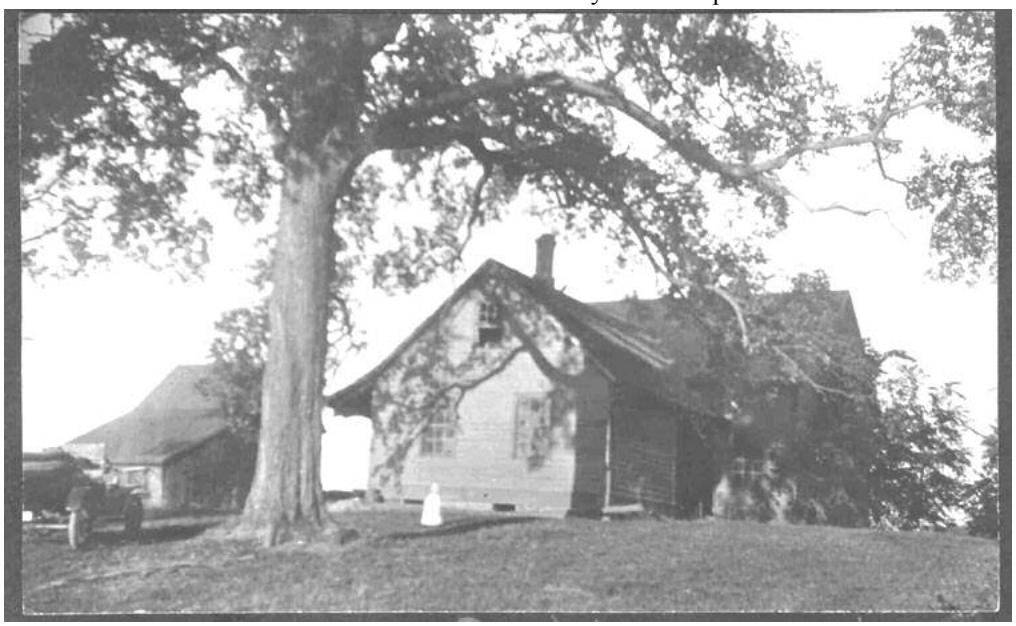
the site was visited, and there were only remnants [a hole and a few stones] of the dwelling that replaced the original log cabin). He used the cabin only at night to sleep and on stormy days as he was ambitious and worked hard all day long. Anton Rose said, "He was a man of very high ideals and of deep religious feelings". The well-worn devotional books of both Gustaf Collin and Gustaf Bloom bear evidence of their constant use.

Gustaf Blom and Gustaf Collin met when Gustaf Bloom learned of new immigrants being stranded on Lamar's Island in the St. Croix River due to an outbreak of cholera. There he met Carolina Collin, and she would have none of him. Carolina's sister, Johanna, explained Carolina's reluctance as follows: Gustaf, after a year in the wilds of Minnesota, appeared uncouth in manner and person. He appeared to be short in those little points of nicety that well brought-up girls from Europe prized so dearly. After considerable pleading by her father, her sister Johanna, a böneman (spokesman) and Gustaf himself, Carolina agreed to marriage. Immediately upon her marriage in 1856, she wept loudly behind closed doors. Years later she confided to her sister, Johanna, that she had a very nice and good man. It was a case of a woman marrying against her own wishes and then falling in love with her husband.

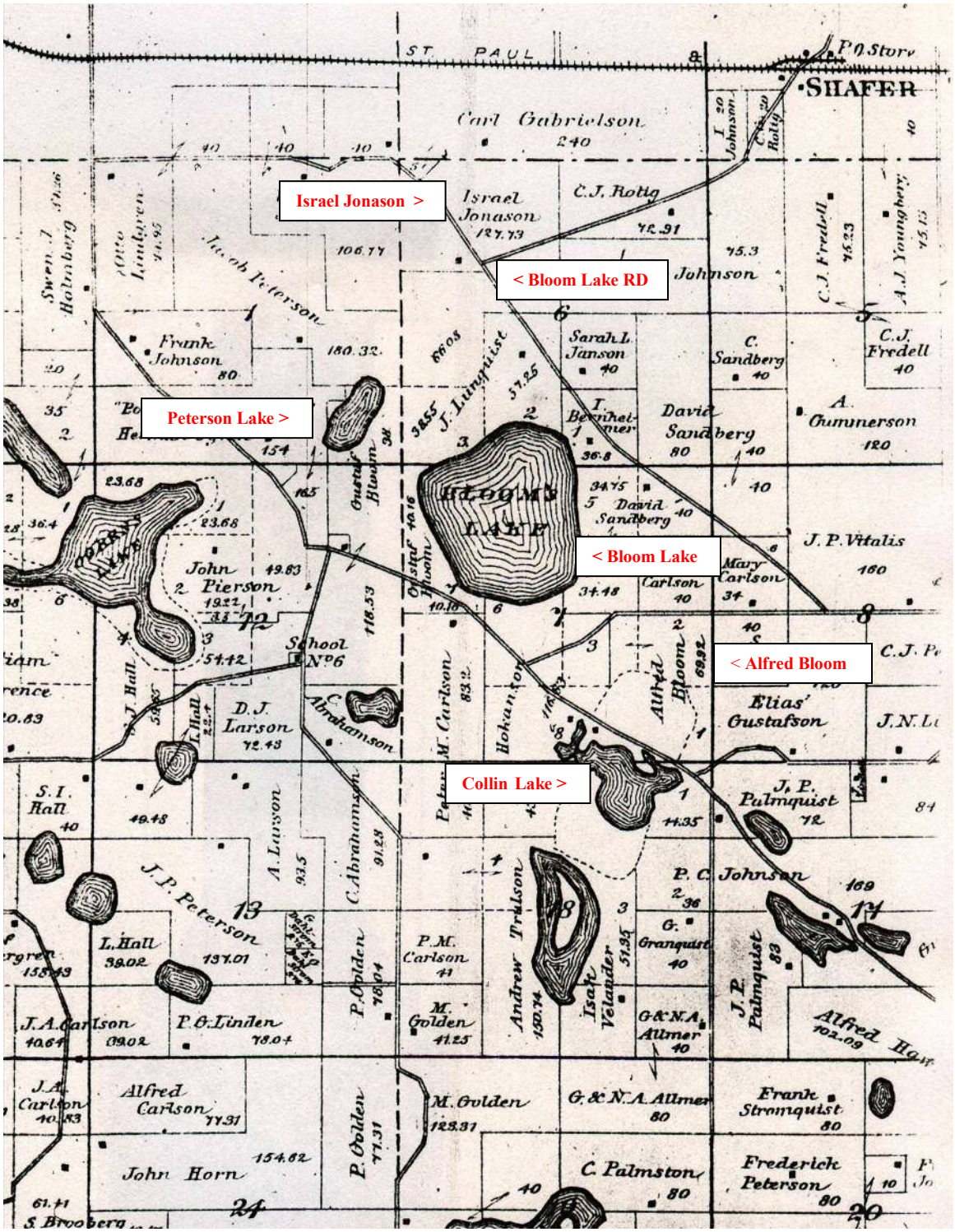
After a time, Gustaf built a new home next to Bloom's Lake along side his original bachelor's cabin. In this work, his carpenter skilled father-in-law assisted him. This house had two fireplaces but originally there was no stove so meals had to be cooked over open fireplaces. Gustaf Bloom descendants Ralph and Joe LeVine were in that house many times as young boys and it's from Ralph that we have the fireplace details. Somehow and forever amusing was Carolina's pleasure with her new house because it possessed among all things, a white porcelain doorknob. This was a thing of beauty unknown to her in Sweden. To this home came nine boys *(Andrew died in infancy)* and four girls. Church was important to the Blooms and Collins, and they faithfully attended services, Sunday School and choir practices. There were also neighborhood visiting and civic duties. Carolina made much of Christmas and other holidays.

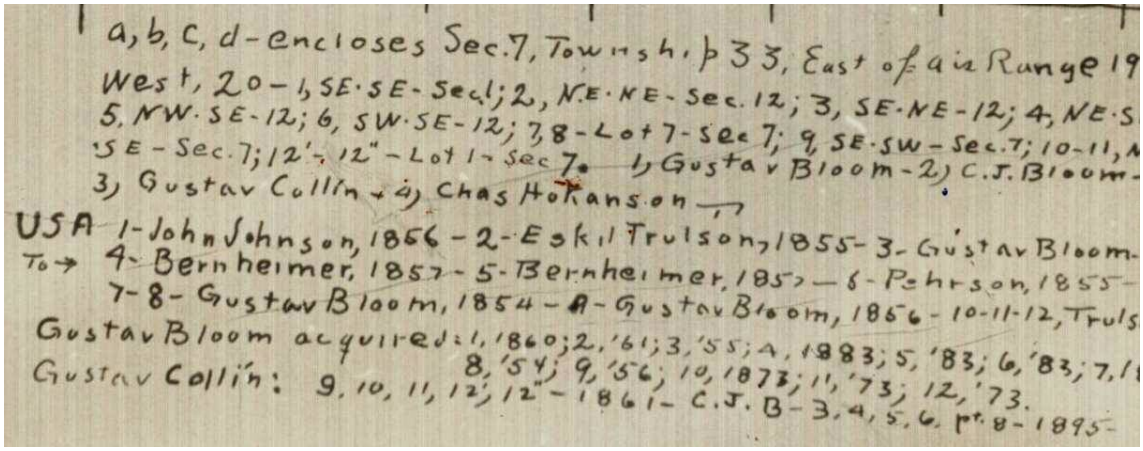
The 1870 census records that Gustaf Bloom had: twenty acres "improved" (meaning tillable) and one hundred sixty acres of woodland land value of $1600; $30 worth of machinery; four horses; six milk cows; 11 beef cows; 15 sheep and eight pigs. The farm animals were worth $1,020 ($17,000 in 2008 money). The census also shows the yield of his production during the year as follows: spring wheat 150 bushels (wheat sold for about $1.50 a bushel in 1850 - which would be $38.00 per bushel in 2008); rye 20 bushels, oats 125 bushels and barley 15 bushels. He also paid some $50 in wages to hired help during the year.

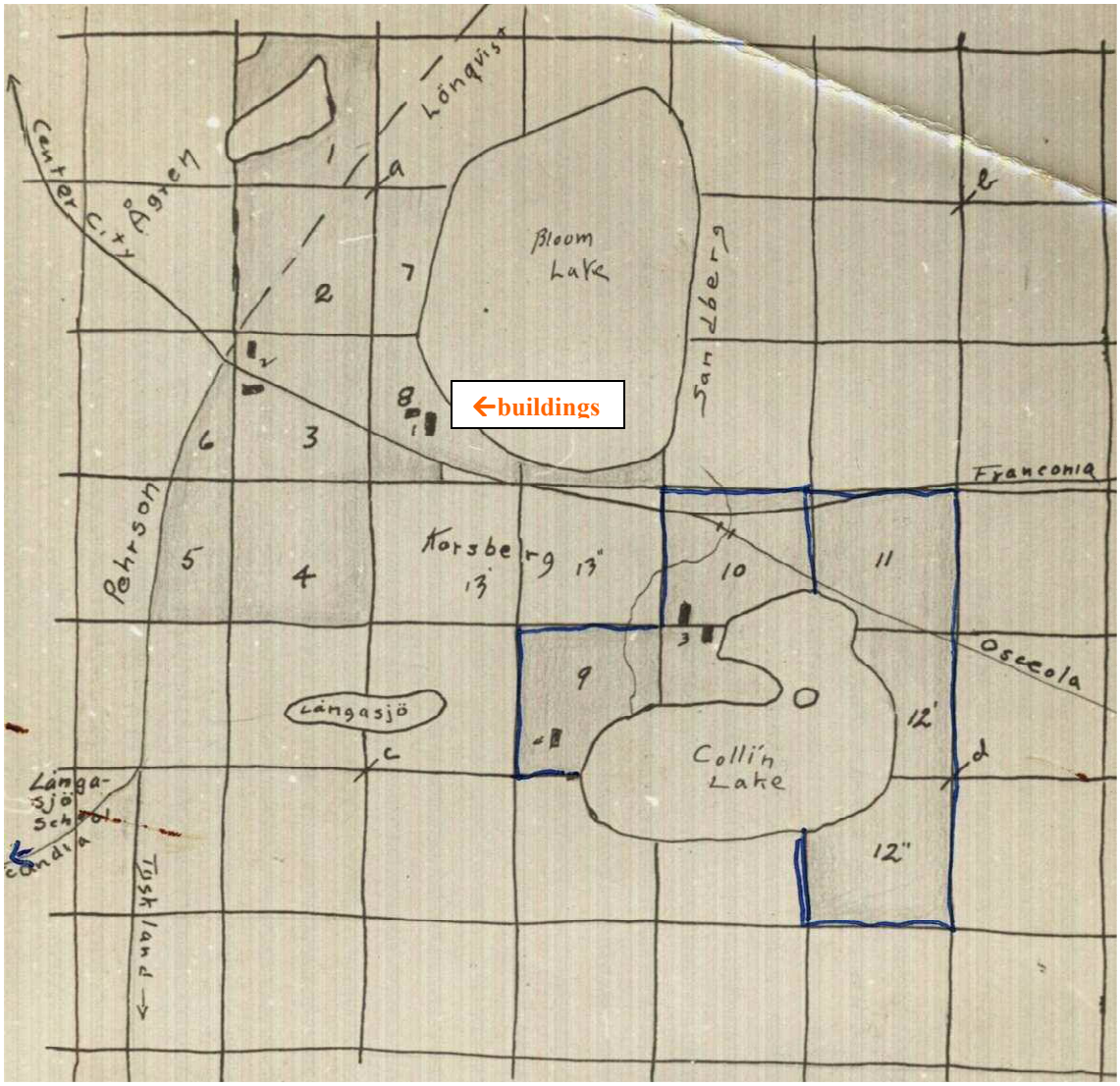
The Gustaf Bloom home identified by Mrs. Joseph Bloom



1888 Platt Map of Part of Franconia Township

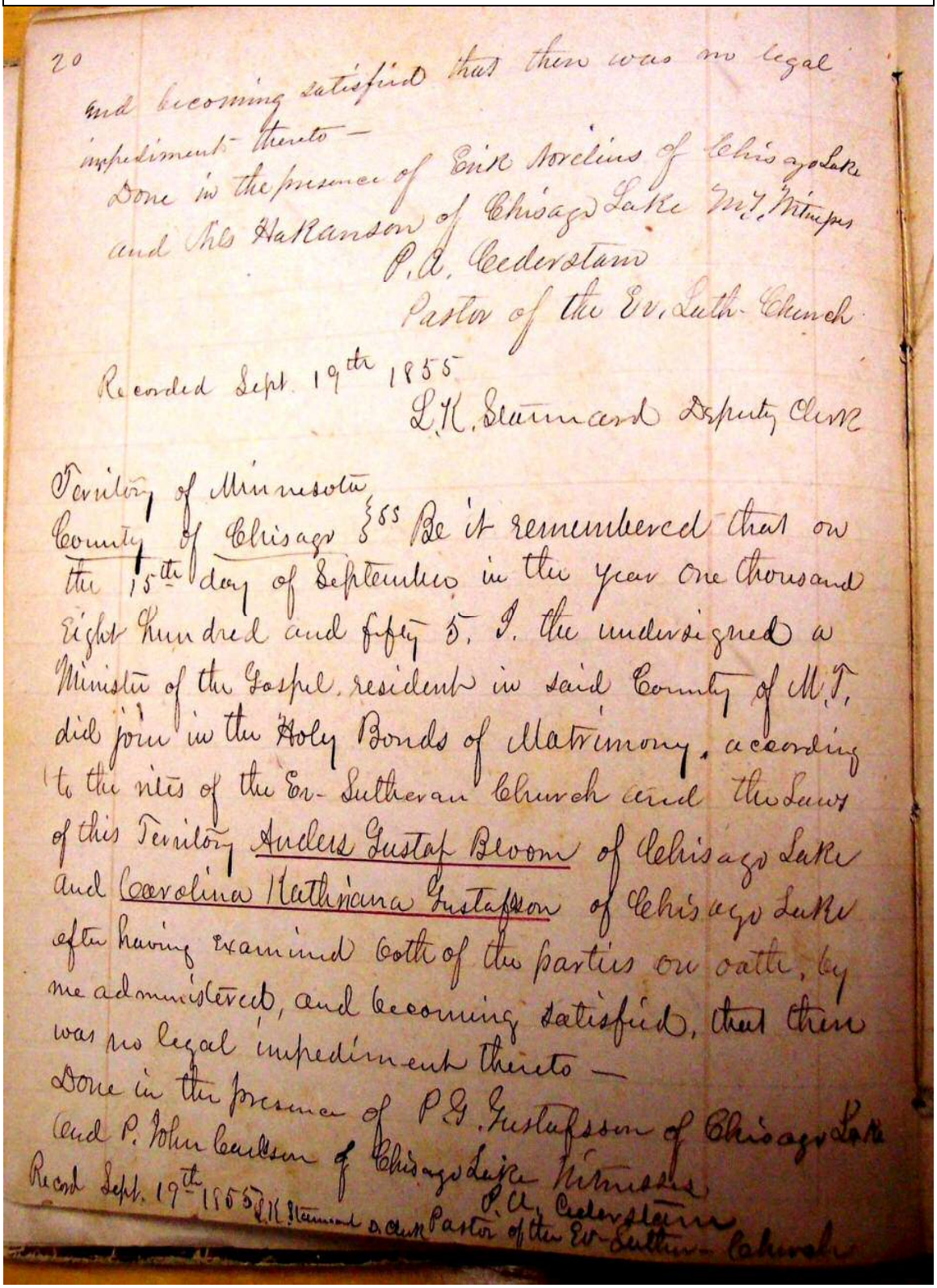



a, b, c, d - encloses Sec. 7, Township 33, East of 4th Range 19
West, 20 - 1, SE·SE - Sec. 1; 2, NE·NE - Sec. 12; 3, SE·NE - 12; 4, NE·S
5, NW·SE - 12; 6, SW·SE - 12; 7, 8 - Lot 7 - Sec. 7; 9, SE·SW - Sec. 7; 10-11,
SE - Sec. 7; 12' - 12" - Lot 1 - Sec 7. 1) Gustav Bloom - 2) C.J. Bloom -
3) Gustav Collin - 4) Chas Hokanson
USA 1 - John Johnson, 1866 - 2 - Eskil Trulson, 1855 - 3 - Gustav Bloom -
To → 4 - Bernheimer, 1857 - 5 - Bernheimer, 1857 - 6 - Pehrson, 1855 -
7-8 - Gustav Bloom, 1854 - A - Gustav Bloom, 1856 - 10-11-12, Truls
Gustav Bloom acquired: 1, 1860; 2, '61; 3, '55; A, 1883; 5, '83; 6, '83; 7, 1
8, '54; 9, '56; 10, 1873; 11, '73; 12, '73.
Gustav Collin: 9, 10, 11, 12; 12" - 1861 - C.J. B - 3, 4, 5, 6 pr. 8 - 1895



Bloom family portion of Franconia township: Note: the rectangle box, with the word "buildings" in it. The top most building was the barn, below came the house and the tiny little line was the location of the pump house. I (Milan) don't no where I got the map but the positioning of the buildings was provided by Richard Bloom (Family of Carl).

Marriage license for Gustaf and Carolina Bloom. Notice she attached the suffix "sson" to her father's first name of Gustaf. Don't be puzzled because she didn't use the suffix "dotter". Swedes were standardizing to a suffix of "sson" for both males and females. Eventually they just used "son". "Gustafsson = Gustaf's son".



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and becoming satisfied that there was no legal impediment thereto —

Done in the presence of Erik Norelius of Chisago Lake and Nils Hakanson of Chisago Lake M.T. Minnesota

P.A. Cederstam

Pastor of the Ev. Luth. Church

Recorded Sept. 19th 1855

L.K. Stannard Deputy Clerk

Territory of Minnesota

County of Chisago } ss Be it remembered that on the 15th day of September in the year one thousand Eight Hundred and fifty 5. I. the undersigned a Minister of the Gospel, resident in said County of M.T. did join in the Holy Bonds of Matrimony, according to the rites of the Ev. Lutheran Church and the Laws of this Territory Anders Gustaf Bloom of Chisago Lake and Carolina Kathrina Gustafsson of Chisago Lake after having examined both of the parties on oath, by me administered, and becoming satisfied, that there was no legal impediment thereto —

Done in the presence of P.G. Gustafsson of Chisago Lake and P. John Carlson of Chisago Lake Minnesota

P.A. Cederstam

Pastor of the Ev. Lutheran Church

Record Sept. 19th 1855 L.K. Stannard Clerk

hard. On September 26, 1876, Gustaf expanded his farm acreage because it was then that he bought 120 acres from his sister, Helena, and her husband, Magnus Broberg. On that same day, the Brobergs sold another Chisago County parcel to John A. Carlson for $1,500. The Brobergs needed to sell because they had moved to Atwater, Minnesota, that year. Carolina died on March 1, 1878, while giving birth to Joseph and that was before the hard years had eased much. When Carolina died, Gustaf had a minimum of eight children at home from newborn Joseph to Alfred who was seventeen. Joseph was born with a cleft palate and a double harelip, so he would have required extraordinary care. (So who took care of Joseph? How did he eat? He couldn't suck!) The epitaph on Carolina's tombstone reads, "Blessed are the dead which die in God's protection". Rev. 14:13.

Gustaf married Eling (or Elin) Carlson on November 21, 1879. Eling was born March 16, 1829. She died on March 21, 1915. She and Gustaf raised Alfred 19, August 15, Anna 14, David 12, Emma 10, Edward 6, Ida 5 and Joseph 2 (Source: 1880 census). Gustaf retired from farming in 1894 (apparently Edward took over the farming duties), and he and Eling continued to live in the old house until he died on,

Gustaf and Elin
Nov 21, 1879

October 3, 1897, at the age of 73 years, 10 months and 5 days. Eling lived with Edward at Russell Beach resort until she died. The epitaph on her tombstone also reads, "Blessed are the dead which die in God's name". Rev. 14:13.

Eling (or Elin) lived here with Edward at 11875 Oak Street, Chisago City, Minnesota

Gustaf and his father-in-law were closely identified with the work of Chisago Lake Lutheran Church located at 1 Summit Avenue, Center City. The Reverend Erland Carlsson, who came to America on the same ship as Gustaf, organized the congregation May 12, 1854. Gustaf was deacon for six years; Gustaf Collin was deacon for 11 years. Gustaf Collin, along with Mobeck and Bystrom, were the first Sunday School teachers. The names and pictures of Gustaf Bloom and Gustaf Collin appeared in the Golden Anniversary Album (1904) of this congregation. They were among those a "längre tid innehaft mera bemärkta tjenster" was given, a recognition of special services to the congregation. Charter membership was officially closed one year after the congregation was organized. Gustaf Blom didn't join the church until December 30, 1855. His second wife, Elin, joined the church on January 1, 1880. They had been married on November 21, 1879.

The Bloom farm passed into Carl Bloom's (Charlie - Calle or Kalle in Swedish) ownership when Edward left, and Carl sold it to strangers when he retired. The house and big elm are gone now. With the passage of generations even the memories are fading.

(Source: Minnesota Geographical Names" by Warren Upham. Minnesota Historical Society Collections Vol. XVII. 1920.) Information was extracted from a Chisago Lake Lutheran Church book, Recall Our Past Celebrate Our Future, written by Art Anderson, historian, May, 1994 for their 140th Anniversary Celebration. The information was translated from the book The Swedish Lutheran Congregations and Swedish History of America, 1890.

Gustaf Blom was on the same ship to America as Pastor Erland Carlsson. It was Pastor Carlsson who officially organized our patriarch's congregation on May 12, 1854. Pastor Erland Carlsson is listed

as the first pastor, but he only stayed about one week. There were about one hundred members at the beginning, and the dedication event was held in Per Berg's haymow. (Some contemporary documents list Per Berg as Albert Berg's father.)

Gustaf Collin, Gustaf Blom's father-in-law, joined the church on August 26, 1855. His second wife, Elizabeth, joined the church on November 15, 1863. They had been married in October of 1863.

Gustaf Blom and Pastor Carlson were on the same ship, the St. Patrick, from Liverpool, England; it docked in New York Harbor on August 13, 1853. The captain of the ship, Captain Kinney, documented that he had ten passengers in cabins, 518 in steerage, twenty-six infants for a total of 554 passengers; twenty-two died in route. Gustaf is the sixty-fifth person listed on the manifest, and he is listed as "Anders Gustaf Blom, age 30". It is felt that Gustaf and Pastor Carlson stayed together on their trip to Chicago on 16 August via Albany and Buffalo and "landed" in Chicago on August 22, 1853. Gustaf and the pastor parted company in Chicago, and Gustaf headed down the Chicago River and then on to the Mississippi.

(Note: By 1848 the Illinois and Michigan Canal connected the Great Lakes to the Mississippi River watershed along a longstanding Indian portage route. The ninety-seven mile canal extended from the Chicago River near Lake Michigan to the Illinois River at Peru, Illinois. The towpath trail along the canal is a state park that runs through a rural and wooded landscape linking a number of towns laid out by the original canal commission. To make this canal work, the engineers had to reverse the flow out of the Chicago River and make it flow south to the Mississippi rather than into Lake Michigan as nature intended. Presumably, Gustaf's passage to Stillwater or Taylor's Falls was by Mississippi riverboat. Clarification added by Milan Bloom).

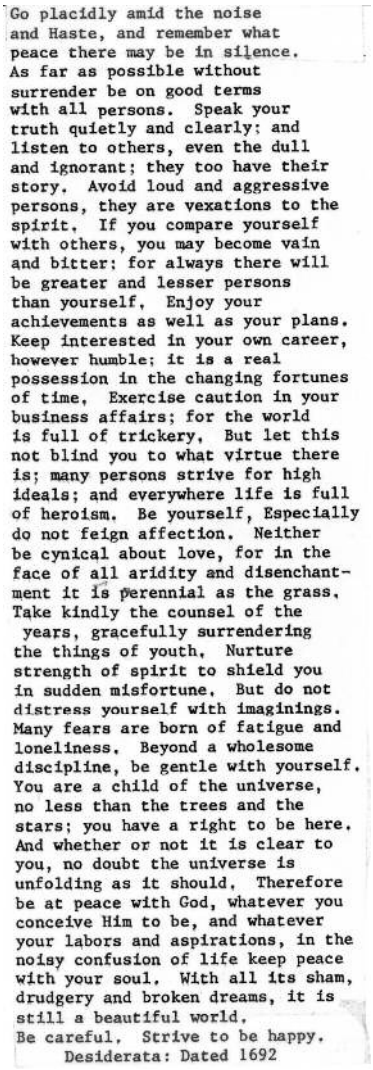
Härmed tillkännagifves för slägt och vänner, att Herren i sitt allvisa råd behagat hädankalla min ömt älskade make

Anders Gustaf Blom

i en ålder af 73 år, 10 månader och 6 dagar. Han föddes i Östra Thorsås församling, Småland, den 27 nov. 1823 och dog i Chisago Lake, Minn., den 3 okt. 1897. Han flyttade från Sverige till Amerika 1853 och bosatte sig samma år i Chisago Lake, der han alltsedan bott och varit medlem af härvarande församling, i hvilken han en tid tjenat som diakon. Han har varit en öm make och kärleksfull fader. Han är djupt sörjd och saknad af mig, hans efterlemnade maka, samt 10 barn, många barnbarn och många slägtingar och vänner. Men vi sörja icke såsom de der intet hopp hafva, ty han dog i tron på sin Frälsare. Sv. Ps. 491.

Center City, Minn., d. 18 okt. 1897.

ELIN BLOM.



Go placidly amid the noise
and Haste, and remember what
peace there may be in silence.
As far as possible without
surrender be on good terms
with all persons. Speak your
truth quietly and clearly; and
listen to others, even the dull
and ignorant; they too have their
story. Avoid loud and aggressive
persons, they are vexations to the
spirit. If you compare yourself
with others, you may become vain
and bitter; for always there will
be greater and lesser persons
than yourself. Enjoy your
achievements as well as your plans.
Keep interested in your own career,
however humble; it is a real
possession in the changing fortunes
of time. Exercise caution in your
business affairs; for the world
is full of trickery. But let this
not blind you to what virtue there
is; many persons strive for high
ideals; and everywhere life is full
of heroism. Be yourself. Especially
do not feign affection. Neither
be cynical about love, for in the
face of all aridity and disenchant-
ment it is perennial as the grass.
Take kindly the counsel of the
years, gracefully surrendering
the things of youth. Nurture
strength of spirit to shield you
in sudden misfortune. But do not
distress yourself with imaginings.
Many fears are born of fatigue and
loneliness. Beyond a wholesome
discipline, be gentle with yourself.
You are a child of the universe,
no less than the trees and the
stars; you have a right to be here.
And whether or not it is clear to
you, no doubt the universe is
unfolding as it should. Therefore
be at peace with God, whatever you
conceive Him to be, and whatever
your labors and aspirations, in the
noisy confusion of life keep peace
with your soul. With all its sham,
drudgery and broken dreams, it is
still a beautiful world.
Be careful. Strive to be happy.
Desiderata: Dated 1692

Anders Gustaf Bloom's obituary translated by Lauri Svedberg:

Herewith I must give the news to relatives and friends that God in His infinite wisdom has seen fit to call my dearly beloved husband ANDERS GUSTAF BLOM at the age of 73 years, 10 months and 6 days. He was born in Östra Thorsås parish, Småland, the 27th of November, 1823, and died in Chisago Lake, Minnesota, the third of October, 1897. He emigrated from Sweden to America in 1853 and settled that same year in Chisago Lake. There he homesteaded land and became a member of our parish here in which he served as a deacon for a time. He was known to be a loving husband and affectionate father. He will be deeply mourned and missed by me, his bereaved wife, our ten children, many grandchildren and many relatives and friends. Our grief is soothed by nothing but the faith we have that he died in the throne of his Heavenly Father. (Sv.=Swedish, Ps.= 491) Center City, Minn. Dated 18 October 1897.

The epitaph on Gustaf's tombstone reads "Christ is my life, death is my winning". Bloom's Lake in Section 7, Franconia Township, was named in honor of Gustaf Bloom whose son, David, was Chisago Registrar of Deeds since 1909.

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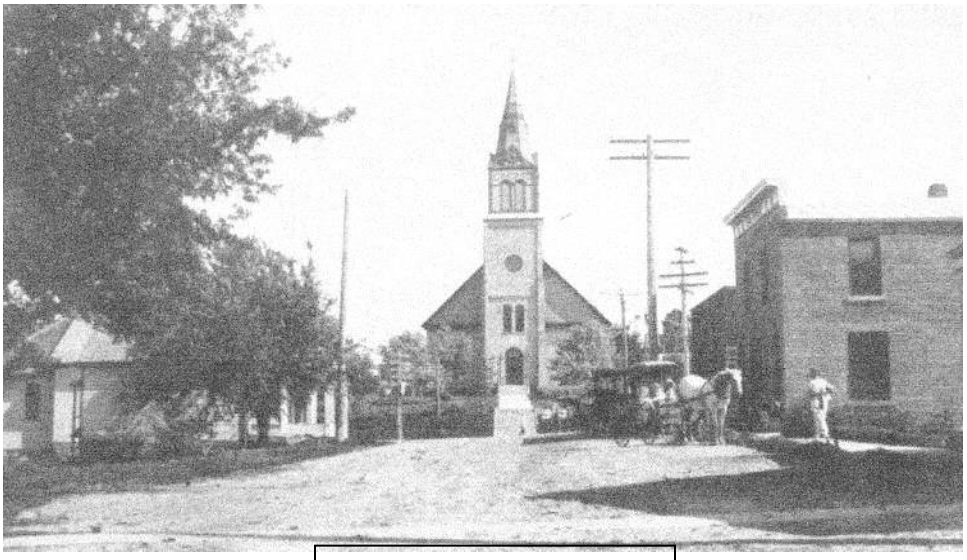
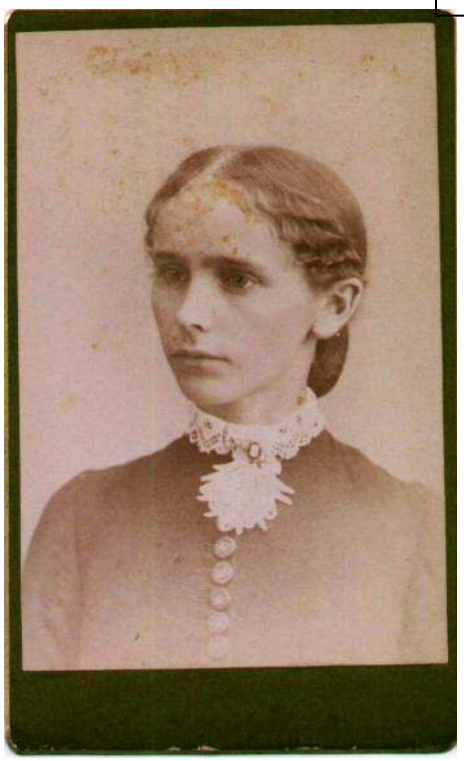


Center City Minnesota



This picture was found in Alfred Bloom's picture album. It wasn't captioned by Alfred and it is labeled simply as "Ida?". Gustaf did have a daughter by the name "Ida" (see picture at right) who lived from 1875 – 1903 but I think a better guess would that this is Anna. She lived from 1866 to 1886.

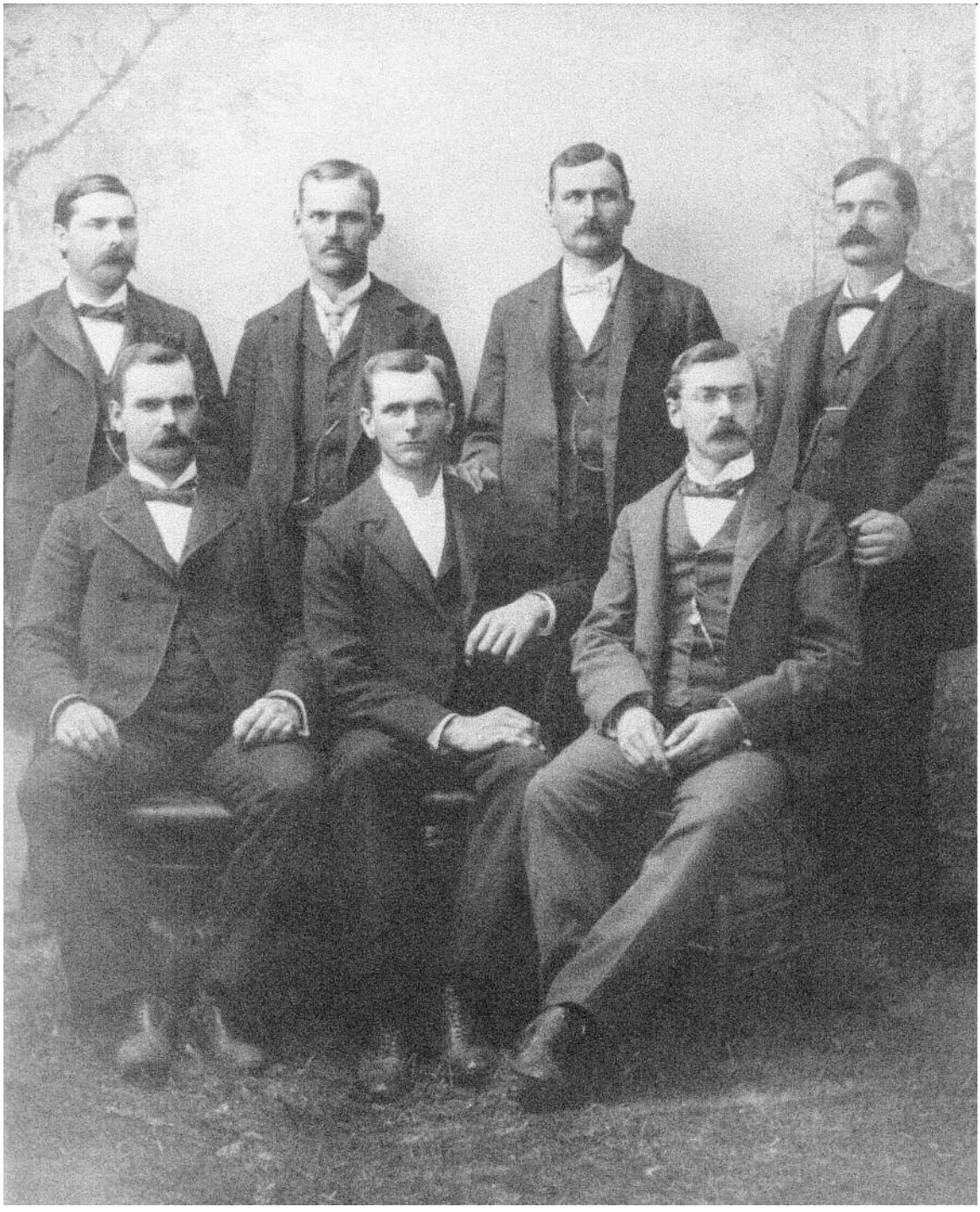
This is also from Alfred's photo Album and it has also been captioned as Gustaf's daughter, 'Ida'. As you can see, if this is Ida, the picture on the left must be Anna. Ida lived from 1875 – 1903 and did not marry. What did she die from? Twenty eight years and one day at death.

Descendants of Anders Gustaf Bloom and Carolina Collin

Back: Joseph, Edward, Alfred, David

Front: Frank, Christine, Charlie, Emma, August

	Date of Birth	Age	Date of Death
Anders Gustaf Blom	11-23-1823	74	10- 3-1897
Carolina Katrina Collin Bloom	10-24-1834	43	3- 1-1878
1. Carl Johan Bloom	5- 9-1857	71	1-16-1929
2. Amanda Kristina Bloom Rose	6-22-1858	88	10- 6-1946
3. Wilhelm Bloom	2-28-1860	27	11- 6-1887
4. Alfred Bloom	5-26-1861	80	10- 9-1941
5. Andrew Bloom	12-20-1862	<1	8-27-1863
6. Johannes August Bloom	8- 4-1864	74	1- 9-1939
7. Anna Louisa Bloom	5-11-1866	19	3-13-1886
8. David Bloom	3- 9-1868	67	1- 7-1936
9. Emma Sophia Bloom Strand	10-15-1869	85	6-24-1954
10. Frank Bloom	5-11-1871	61	6-12-1932
11. Edward Ansgarius Bloom	7-19-1873	86	7-10-1959
12. Ida Helena Bloom	2-22-1875	28	2-23-1903
13. Joseph Bloom	3- 1-1878	66	7-14-1944



Most of the boys are wearing watch fobs. They were made from Carolina's hair and have a gold coin attached to them. It was customary for ladies to save the hair from their hair brush every time they brushed it. They even had a special container, by their mirror, to place the loose hair in. (I got the information concerning how the hair was saved from Lucille Brenhaug Ward, Granddaughter of Joseph Bloom – he is in top row, second from left).

This Indenture, made this eight day of March in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Sixty nine between Frank Moobeck and Christina C. Moobeck wife of Said Frank Moobeck of Chisago Lake Chisago Co Minnesota parties of the first part, and Gustaf Bloom, Gustaf Collin and Eskil Trulson of Franconia in Said Co & State parties of the Second part, Witnesseth, That the Said parties of the first part, in consideration of the Sum of Thirty Dollars, to me [inrand?] paid by the Said parties of the Second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath granted, bargained, and Sold and conveyed, and do by these presents, grant, bargain and Sell and convey to the Said parties of the Second part, their heirs and afsigns, Forever all that tract of parcel of land, lying and being in the County of Chisago and State of Minnesota, described as follows, to-wit: Commencing at a point Seven hundred and fifty nine and one half links West of North east Corner of Section Thirty four (34) in Township No Thirty four (34) of Range Number Twenty (oa 14° 55°) and South from last point name 14° East one hundred and twenty four links to a Stake at the corner of the tract of land hereby conveyed, Thence South 14° East Twenty four and one fourth links; Thence North Seventy five degrees East fifty links thence North 14° W twenty four and one fourth links, thence South Seventy five degrees West fifty links to the Stake mentioned as the corner of Said Tract, containing nearly two Square rods of land – To have and to hold The Same, Together with all the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto Belonging, or in any wise appertaining To the Said parties of the Second part, Their heirs and

[_____
__]enjoy and _____ the Same; and that the Said parties of the first part will Warrant and Defend the title to the Same against all lawful claims. In Testimony Whereof, The Said parties of the first part have hereunto Set their hands and Seals the Day and year first above written.

Signed, Sealed and delivered in presence of Frank Moobeck (seal)
L H Stannard Christina X {her mark} C Moobeck (Seal)
H.J. Pool
State of Minnesota
County of Chisago

Be it known, That, on this Eight day of March A.D. 1869, personally came before me, Frank Moobeck and his Wife Christina C. Moobeck to me personally known to be the Same persons described in and who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged that they executed the Same freely and voluntarily. And the Said Christina C. on Examination by me Separate and apart from her Said husband acknowledged that she executed the same without any compulsion from any one.

L. H. Stannard Judge of Probate
Chisago Co. Minn.

(Note: I have typed the above using the same upper and lower case letters and punctuation as the original. Eskil Trulson is Gustaf Collin's other son-in-law. Also, please note that one rod is 16.5 feet and one link is just .66 of a foot. So anyway, this plot of land was 16.5' by 33'. They paid $30 which today would be $437. The legal description places this little spot very near South Center Lake on lot 5. What was it for – this small patch? To small for a building unless it was an animal stable. Was it a vegetable garden? Or was it possibly a cemetery? Why would these 3 men buy it together? That's why I suspect a cemetery. Any of you have any other theories? By the way, since the first reference point is west 759 and ½ link (1/2 link ='s 4") west of the northeast corner of section 34, that is the same as saying it started 501' 4" from the corner. Who measured that close in 1869? Comment added by Milan Bloom November 19, 2005.)

1. Mr. Elias NILSSON (b.1731-Älmeboda Parish,Sweden;d.1790-Brunsmåla,ÄP,Sweden)

sp: Ms Annika JONSDOTTER (b.1741-Linneryd Parish;m.1763;d.1790-Brunsmåla,ÄP,Sweden)

- 2. Ms Märta NILSSON (b.1768-Brunsmåla,Älmeboda parish,Sweden;d.1790-Brunsmåla,ÄP,Sweden)
- 2. Mr. Nils Eliasson COLLIN (b.1771-Brunsmåla,Älmeboda parish,S;d.1827-Broddamå,ÄP,Sweden)
  - sp: Ms Ingeborg Karlsdotter GUDMUNDDOTTER (b.1777-Kalebo gård in Elme;m.1803;d.1833-)
    - 3. Ms Anna COLLIN (b.1803;d.1812)
    - 3. Mr. Gustav Nilsson COLLIN (b.1806-Kalebo gård in Älmeboda,K;d.1889-Grand daughter's farm)
      - sp: Ms Kristina JAENSDOTTER (b.1797-Trälebonäs,Sweden;m.1830;d.1863-Center City Ar)
        - 4. Ms Anna COLLIN (b.1831;d.1854-Chicago,Ill)
        - 4. Mr. Johannas COLLIN (b.1833;d.1833)
        - 4. Ms Carolina Catrina COLLIN (b.1834-Born on the croft Gust;d.1878-Center City,Mn)
          - sp: Mr. Anders Gustaf Carlsson BLOM (b.1823-Östra Torsås,A,V,SS;m.1855;d.1897-)
        - 4. Ms Johanna COLLIN (b.1836-Sweden)
          - sp: Mr. Olie PHERSSON
        - 4. Ms Maria COLLIN (b.1839;d.1924)
          - sp: Mr. Eskil TRULSON (b.1829;m.1856;d.1875)
      - sp: Ms Elizabeth LILJEBLAD (b.1813;m.1863;d.1900)
    - 3. Mr. Erland COLLIN (b.1809)
    - 3. Ms Maria COLLIN (b.1811-Brunsmåla,Sweden)
    - 3. Mr. Karl Nilsson Grim COLLIN (b.1814-Brunsmåla,Sweden)
    - 3. Ms Anna Nelsdotter COLLIN (b.1817-Kroneberg's Lan,Sweden;d.1901)
      - sp: Mr. SWENSSON (m.1853)
        - 4. Rev. Dr Carl Johan SVENSON Dr. of Divinity (b.1857-Makrimsmala,Elmeboda,S;d.1936-)
        - 4. Mr. Nels Gustav SVENSON (b.1854-Makrimsmala,E,S;d.1914-Bethesda hospital Mckensi)
          - sp: Ms Mathilda
      - sp: Mr. Karl CARLSON (m.1850)
        - 4. Mr. Elias CARLSON (b.1847-Kroneberg's,Lan,Sweden;d.1929)
          - sp: Ms Anna Mathilda PETERSON (m.1882;d.1997)
          - sp: Ms Mathilda SANGREN (m.1895)
    - 3. Ms Beata COLLIN (b.1820;d.1854-Shores fo the Mississippi)
- 2. Mr. Pontin COLLIN
- 2. Ms Ingrid NILSSON (b.1773-Sweden)
- 2. Mr. Johannes NILSSON (b.1775)
- 2. Mr. Magnus NILSSON (b.1787)

Gustaf Bloom's Father-in-Law: Gustaf Collin Mar 10, 1806 to May 2, 1889

A translated holographic copy (written in the handwriting of the writer) of the autobiography of Gustaf Collin as found bound in his Bible which was given to Aner Orval Collin Bloom as the first member of the Bloom family to enter the ministry. It was copied and translated by his wife, Josephine Anderson Bloom. The autobiography was apparently written in 1873 when he was sixty-seven years of age. He died in 1889 at the age of eighty-three.

This Holy Book of the Holy Writings for life belongs to Gustaf Collin. He was born the tenth of March of 1806. His parents were Nils Collin and Ingebor Carls Daughter in Kållebo, where the father was a soldier and moved to Brunsmåla (see "H" on the map) in the month of my birth the same year. In 1817 they moved to Yxnanäs where they lived four years (see "L" on map). Which year (1820) I went to confirmation and was deeply moved by the Holy Spirit. Later I went away to work on a farm and stayed two years. My parents were so poor that they lost everything and moved to Stenvarnsholm, and I went to Carlskrona in April of 1822 and stayed there four and a half years until October 16, 1826.

Then I went back to the congregation of my birth, but that was a hard year. One *tunna* bushel of rye cost 30 *Riks Dollars* (*tunna* bushel: (*in other words it took 30 Riks Dollars to buy the total yield of rye from one Swedish acre of land. A Swedish acre is 1.21 times the size of a U.S. acre. Milan Bloom)*, and I did not have my parents to live with, so I turned to my trade of carpentry, but I had nothing to start with, and I had to help my parents. Times were hard, I was unknown and had little clothes for my body. Nobody but the Lord was my helper. I had to borrow tools to start with, and then my father died in 1827. I had to do little daily jobs in the country to keep my mother and sisters in a small home. They could also find ladies work by the day.

Then I felt I must get married even if I was poor during those years. The Lord's Holy Spirit worked heartily in my soul and let me see my own piousness was not enough to have peace or grace or favor with God, even if He had from my very first communion showed me His power. There was a girl who lived on the next farm who wanted me for her husband, and my mother also wished the same. The girl's name was Kristina Jaensdotter. Her parents were Joens Carlsom and mother Caring (Karin). I married Kristina October 31, 1830. We were given five children together, the first a girl Anna born August 2, 1831, a son Johan 1833 who died the same year, then Carolina Catrina born October 24, 1834, Johnanna born November 22, 1836, and Maria born June 2, 1837. We moved several times from the land (torpet) and back again.

1941 picture of a mill on property belonging to Gustaf Collin in 1853 and visited by Anton Rose in 1929. While this mill is on the property, it may not be the actual building that Gustaf built.

We had the land twenty years but were just as poor. Then there was a mill to buy, so we again started out from the beginning in the woods where there were hills and stones. I purchased it for 83 R.D. and 16 ikj to start with. It meant hard work and much power. We were poor and could not rest. Most work by myself and I came down with edema during the time of extremely hard work which was first of all to organize everything that belonged to poverty (*property*?). The place was bought for perpetuity, but I must show my rights including the mill, and this cost me 200 R.D. (*Enough to buy eight Oxen. Milan Bloom*) with the hills and stones all over. I had to start work on a way (road) to get there. It was too much for one man and his family not well and little food, but thanks and praise to our Lord God, He helped me much, and we lived there seven years. Then I injured my hand and could not work. This was when my thoughts turned to America. I thought about this a long time. I did not have any desire to go against God's will, but I had no peace, so I had to leave it completely in God's hands. He is all wise and knows that we can cast all our

cares upon Him. I prayed for a sign, that if a Godfearing man would come to purchase the mill, then I would go to America. He came, and we arranged to sell the mill, but our oldest daughter did not want to leave for America and according to her wish I bought a little farm, and it became just as hard to think of America. I did not know where to turn, so I prayed to God again for a sign about America. If someone would come and buy my farm, then I would go to America. They very next day a man came who wished to buy immediately before someone else came. I sold to him and made ready for us to leave.

2004 picture of the deserted mill on what was Gustaf Collin's mill property before coming to America. Also, note the stream behind it which provided the water power. Although the picture of this mill is on the Gustaf Collin mill property, it may not be of the building Gustaf built (see pictures below). Notice all of the rocks along the bank. If this is the building built by Gustaf than those are the rocks that Gustaf put there. In the left hand picture is Alice (Bloom) Jones in foreground.

It is thought by Bodil Stefansson from Torekov, Sweden that the actual mill built by Gustaf Collin is on the left (Gustaf was a woodworker not a mason so I wander about that ….) and the house the Collins lived in on the right when they operated the mill. As of 2007 these buildings were still on the grounds of Kålleström. The property is now owned by a German couple. Check with them before nosing around.

A modern house on the other side of the stream at Kålleström. If you visit Kålleström, it should serve as a reference point. Notice the corner of the Mill.

[*Gustaf continues*] I left our Fatherland May 8, 1854, with my wife and four children and a sister Beata.

We came to Göteborg May 12th and stayed there one month, then boarded a large American ship

June 12th , 1854. The trip was good and we landed in Boston on American soil, July 22nd and came to Chicago July 27th. There Anna, our oldest daughter, died and was buried in a churchyard. We left there July 31st and came to Stillwater and up to Boom (Island) August 8th. There many of our friends from our trip died of cholera.

We came to Chisago Lake on August 10, 1854. We lived in (klovet) five years where we built, farmed and fenced. *(Note: To start with, and for several summer months after the Collin's arrived in America, the Collin's lived under the dense maple trees with make-shift walls to keep the wild animals out. Milan Bloom from details provided by Ralph LeVine, Gustaf Blom's great-grandson).* In 1859 we moved to Route 5 where my beloved mate Kristina died in April 1863. In October 1863 I entered into another marriage with a widow Elizabeth Liljiblad. We have lived together without children until 1873 (the date this autobiography was written). I wish for nothing more than to die in the Lord Jesus Christ's name. Then I would be fortunate, and You beloved God, for Your Son Jesus Christ's sake, shall through the Holy Spirit help me to fight and win and find peace. Amen in Jesus name. (He died May 2, 1889; 4:30 pm.)

My dear children, grandchildren, etc., we are now in America from that far away beloved Sweden and our dear forefathers' and fathers' homeland, so I would like to give my children and grandchildren, etc. a little warning or some thoughts about why we are taken (created) out of earth to be here a little while and return to earth (dust) again.

We have a soul which will never die because God blew into mankind's nose a living breath (spirit), so we are living souls that should and can learn and feel our Dear, Highest, Holy Creator. Our creation was as God wished, so we must know through the precious Word how it all came about. When man by nature without God lives the worst way in sin, but we have the Holy Word and know how full of life, God has revealed the way of salvation for us, but this only if we allow Him to come into our lives and accept Him. This Word.

What I would say to my dear children and grandchildren is very dear to my heart. We are not created for this world for we have another destination. We see daily that people die and are brought back to the earth, but God's Word teaches us that we are living souls that cannot die and that we, God's creation, are God's greatest work who He loves very most and has shown the greatest love, charity, and mercy in preparing for His creatures the dearest He had, an unending, outstanding, magnificent, glorious life which He has given and explained in His Holy Word. The person who does not accept this love and invitation to come to Him is the unluckiest among all. Therefore this is my prayer for you dears, that you be not indifferent and unfeeling towards this important part of your lives, your salvation and peace because if you reject this, then all is lost. If one could gain the whole world but lose one's soul what do we have then when we consider the great ransom given for us. Now I must mention the ransom for nothing is as precious, yes nothing is greater than God's only begotten Son, His dear Son. We learn from the Holy Word that we have a True God, Almighty and revealed in His Word who does as He wills because He knows the end result of everything. He knows all and is everywhere present, three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He has shown us His love, mercy, charity and as Holy and Righteous, He has loved the world, doomed and fallen world and given His only dear Son so that all who believe in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. Who this Son is is told us in God's Word.

"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was from God and God was the Word. The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we saw His greatness and mercy as the only Son's greatness."

What does the Son say? "The one you see from the Father, I and the Father are one." Who then is the Son? God Himself.

Let us think on this, what God has done for our enlightenment and salvation. He has showed very clearly He was God through the many wonders He performed, the blind received their sight, deaf heard, lame walked, lepers cleansed, the dead awakened to life. He certainly fulfilled His Name, Jesus, the greatest, most beloved, peace giving name for all of the Lord's faithful disciples and through this Name we have grace and sinners forgiveness and salvation. Through this merciful God, yes, life and peace.

What then has Jesus Christ God's beloved Son done for us in our place? Think about who He is, this Jesus Christ, that He is not an ordinary man whose name is Jesus Christ but is the true living God, Creator of all heaven and earth and man like unto Himself and His same One became man-God whom we have offended, to atone through Himself to bring us to Himself. God was in Christ sacrificed to forgive our sins and this is what Jesus Christ has done to atone, so that we might be His own. He paid, not with silver or gold, no, He gave Himself for us. He took our sins upon Himself as though they were His own. He fulfilled God's law for us and took away the law's punishment that we deserved. He suffered all of man's punishment which would have been ours forever and forever.

Let us now follow Him from His birth to His death on the cross. Think if all those who were against Him until they finally set Him before the judgment seat. Then He suffered extreme pain in His soul and took all our sins upon Himself to pay for all our sins and take away all our sin, He let His enemies do as they wished even though He was the Son of God who as God could have struck them down with one word. When Jesus had suffered all that was necessary for our salvation, He said "All is finished" and He gave up His spirit or died. The weather showed its disgust. He was buried and on the third day rose from the dead. He showed Himself many times during forty days. The disciples received the Holy Spirit to teach them and to remind them of their great hard and important call to tell of man's salvation, life and peace forever and ever.

Now my children this has been written to remind you and encourage you to think about why we were created and saved. Is it not enough that we were born into this world which makes us this world's children? No, it is not enough that we have been baptized and then followed the Word of Christ who has saved us and kept us close to God and thereby we are His disciples, but we must first learn to be the children of God and love our Master. Children are more than disciples. We are God's children. In baptism we became God's child through Jesus Christ and with Jesus Christ will inherit all that the Father has, as brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ. God is our Father whose children we became through baptism. The great God, Almighty, Holy, True, Good and Full of Mercy and Love. What children have such a father? He suffered great pain to bring us salvation and now He wants us to come to Him and take what He gives peace, love and life. He will guide us through His Holy Word. He has sent Jesus Christ without whom we would have no peace or salvation.

Shall we come to Him my children and believe in God? My dear children, it is possible to grow into the life of our savior Jesus Christ and became acquainted with Him and receive peace and become God's children. We should read 2 Peter Ch. 1. My dears, I have wanted to write this from my heart in this book, and I beg you not to forsake God's mercy but pray to God for the Holy Spirit' leading, because we must all die but our souls live and if we pray in the Father's name our Father will protect us. He will hear us. If you are not truly God's children and Christians, then come to Him and give yourselves through God's Word and the Holy Communion, praying that God will awaken in you through the Holy Spirit a true belief in Jesus Christ.

Oh my dear children, pray God our dear Father and Saviour to help you to come to Him fearing that you will be cast out. Come to Him now and God will protect you through the Holy Spirit and help you through all temptations and original sin.

Signed GUSTAF COLLIN, 1873

1929 Postcards sent by Anton Rose to August Bloom

Anton made a trip to Sweden for the express purpose of finding authentic records for the Collin-Bloom family in Swedish churches and municipal records.

Dear August,
Grandpa Collin's birthplace is a heavy timbered house covered with boards running up and down. The corner has timber ends about 5 in. - not like the one you were born in. These corners are covered with boards, so the corners look on a plan sketch like this (*on the original postcard, Anton drew a picture of the corner*). The door is very rough and windows small. I could not get in but looked through the window and saw nothing but a weaving stool.

The next postcard was written by Anton to his Uncle August during the same time frame from Sweden:

The old man by the door is the one who told me of the old times when that place was a busy spot, and old Lars Bloom was a man of importance. The place does not now make a good impression-but for the one flowerbed in the foreground-the place is bare. The renters seemed poor. The house, however, is quite substantial. I couldn't get a date on it, but it's more than 200 years old and when it was built it must have been something of a landmark. All houses until quite recently are of logs covered in Småland by boards placed vertically. The corner logs went over a few inches-see details corner of Collin Cottage boxed by boards. Partitions also of logs - see boxings on side of houses.

Comment from Marge Svedberg, house of August: When my husband (Harvey Svedberg) and I visited Sweden, we noticed that this custom of vertical boards on the homes seemed common practice. A cousin of Harvey's still lives in the old family home and while modernized, still retains the vertical siding and the interior rooms have a raised doorsill.

Next postcard:

This is Sofia and Albin Sandberg. Sofia is the daughter of Dorrthea and – Millander. Mellander was "*Klakare*." (*The klockare was the parish clerk and it was his duty to help the Pastor. Milan Bloom).* She was born 1853. Her mother was born 1822 and was the daughter of Maria Louisa and Lars Blom. M. L. was born 1781 and Lars 1793. Lars had a title "Regement Hofslagare" and as I understand it-that meant army veterinarian surgeon. The function has been discontinued. He was born in Ostergard-Askeberga-Ostra Torsas. A photo of this place is enclosed. This should also be the birthplace of Carl Blom, father of Gustaf Blom. Gustaf was born on a "Soldat Torp" known as a "backstuga". (*On the back of the picture Marge Svedberg has, the following is written in Swedish, and as best as she can translate: A "bake stuga" (cottage). In such a one was born Gustaf Blom-Bakstugan-Vastergard-Askeberga-Ostra Torsas-Kronebers Lan-Småland-Sweden. 27 Nov. 1823")* Backstuga is disappearing, but I found one. It was then about 5 o'clock, so the picture is not very good. I did not find the one in which grandpa was born-it was not more than ¾ mile from the house of Lars Blom.

Gustaf Collin (Father-In-Law to Gustaf Blom)

Edited by Milan Bloom, December 2011

Collin is an old family name. The Collins were army men, farmers, pastors and physicians. Nils Eliasson Collin, was born in Brunsmåla on August 4, 1771. Brunsmåla is north of Kållebo about 2,000 meters. Nils's wife was Ingeborg Carlsdotter of Kållebo. The Collin's were pious people and son Gustaf (born March 10, 1806) showed a pietistic nature at a very early age. Nils and family were at one time in comfortable circumstances and Nils had a very responsible military position. Nils was not small by 18th century standards - he did measure 5'8" - nevertheless he was considered "fragile" which is probably why he was dismissed from the army perhaps as early as 1806 or as late as 1817. Both dates can be documented. After he was dismissed, he moved back to Brunsmåla as a farmer. In 1817 he moved from there to Yxnanäs (about 7,000 meters south of Rävemåla on highway 122) and a couple of years later to Stenvarmsholm and in 1824 to Broddamåla croft, where he (Nils) died August 30, 1827 – he was 56 years old. The place and date of Ingeborg's death is not known, but it is thought that she returned to Kållebo where son Gustaf joined her in 1829.

Gustaf Collin (son of Nils and Ingeborg Carlsdotter; grandson of Elias Nilsson)

Gustaf was born in Kållebo gård (residence) in Älmeboda, Kronebergslän, Småland, Sweden, on March 10, 1806. He died near Center City in Minnesota on May 2, 1889. From age fourteen to sixteen he worked for neighbors; from April 1822 to October 16, 1829, he studied carpentry in Kariskrona. It was during this period that his father Nils suffered financial losses and moved to the lowly soldier's cottage.

How do we say "toilet" in polite society?

Example of an "undantag" which is the place where the old folks lived in retirement. The owner of the farm was required to provide them with food, wood, some farm animals, some acres to support the animals, an area for a garden and other necessities to live on in their retirement. The bell tower on the house was called a *vällingklocka* *välling* means gruel and *klocka* means bell.
So the *vällingklocka* was rung at meal time. This tower was a sign that it was part of a farm big enough to have farmhands.

After finishing his carpentry training in 1829, Gustaf joined his mother *(or so it is believed)* and family at Kållebo and supported them with his new skill. These were difficult days as Småland was then suffering from its famous hard-time period during which many died of actual starvation. All of those who could, moved to the larger cities or to America. Gustaf had no money to buy tools for his work, so he worked during these days with borrowed tools. Within a year he was put in charge of a torp (farm) called "Brademala" (*I think the original translator who was the wife of Aner Orval Collin Bloom) meant "Broddamåla" torp which is about 5,000 meters south of Yxnanäs on highway 122. Today it is a village. Milan Bloom.*)

It was at this time *(presumably while in charge of the torp)* that Gustaf's mother, Ingeborg, chose a wife for him. His mother was described as having a strong personality and being a good family manager. She chose Kristina Jaensdotter to be his wife. Kristina (b. 1797) was the daughter of Jöns and Karin Carlsson from Trällebonäs. She was nine years older than Gustaf and of a lower social cast, but she was unusually intelligent and very beautiful. When they married, October 31, 1830, he was twenty-four, and she was thirty-three. Given her age, she must have been classed as a spinster.

She was described as being "very capable" which probably meant she ruled the roost. That may have been favorable. By diligent work on the farm and at carpentry, Gustaf accumulated enough capital to invest in an opportunity. (*Cousin Anton Rose, Gustaf's great grandson, postulated that perhaps Gustaf needed a good manager because he may have been an idealist and a pietistic dreamer).*

In 1846 the opportunity came in the form of a piece of land suitable for a mill. He purchased the land for 83 rks and 16 sk. (*25 Rks. would buy one ox. Milan Bloom*). After much labor (felling trees, building a road and a dam, constructing the mill itself, an expenditure of 800 rks) the mill was built. Gustaf's carpentry skills served him well during this work. *(This mill was still in existence in 1929 when Cousin Dr. Anton Rose visited the site and spoke to the owner.)* The Collin daughters were of great help in the mill operation, and they introduced voluntary tolls for grain grinding. Anna, Gustaf's oldest daughter, took charge of the accounts *(I presume we are referring to the milling accounts)*. Anna seemed to take after her mother. She was an unusual person of high mentality, had a positive personality and came to be the family manager. Gustaf's daughter, Carolina Catrina, who later married Gustaf Blom, was also bright but more docile than Anna. Gustaf named the mill "Kållesträm", and he operated it profitably for seven years.

Gustaf had only one sickness in his career when he was close to the end of his milling experience. He suffered from acute nephrosis edema "vattensvulst" (*vattensvulst means "water tumor." Milan Bloom). (Note: nephrosis is a disease of the kidneys.)* When he recovered from this illness, he seriously injured his hand and was laid up for several weeks. It was during this time that he could not work that his thoughts turned to the "land of opportunity and wide open spaces" in America. Emigration became a passion, "an obsession". He also sought Divine guidance. He was assured through this process that it was Divine will that he migrate to America. He was supported in this decision by the local pastor with whom he shared the burden of decision. Additionally, this pastor was "anxious and concerned for the spiritual welfare of the many Swedish people from Småland who had already gone to America". His twenty-two year old daughter, Anna, was in love with a lieutenant in the Swedish army and argued against the move because to leave for America was to leave her lieutenant.

Because of his strong urge to go to America, Gustaf sold the mill in 1853 and prepared to take his family to the new country at once. Anna vigorously opposed him, and he finally gave in and bought a residence (gård) "Estarmåla" instead (*this is about 4,000 meters south of Rävemåla on highway 122*). This was an impossible situation for Gustaf since his mind was fixed on that journey to the United States. There was also the spiritual welfare of the Swedes already in America. Gustaf prayed for a sign to guide him. When an unexpected buyer offered him a good price for his property, this was the sign that he sought. He offered Anna a dowry, so she could remain and marry her lieutenant. In the end she decided to go with the family.

May 1854 found this family leaving Älmeboda parish for the point of debarkation in Göteborg, Sweden. At some point Gustaf's youngest sister, Beata, joined them. They boarded the ship, Woodbury, on May 12, 1854, and arrived in Boston on July 22, 1854, forty-one days later. They were in Chicago on July 24th where Anna, who had been ailing and was quite ill, died and was buried. (*The cause was probably due to nervous complications incident to the migration. Her death was unforeseen at the beginning of the trip, but it was by no means sudden. Comment by Dr. Anton Rose)*

They arrived in Stillwater, Minnesota, via Mississippi steamship on July 31, 1854. *(Stillwater is on the St. Croix River and forms the border between Minnesota and Wisconsin. It empties into the Mississippi River near Prescott, Wisconsin. Where Gustaf's family boarded the Mississippi river steamship is not known, but they most likely traveled the 181 mile distance from Chicago to Rock Island, Illinois, which is on the Mississippi, aboard the Rock Island and Chicago Railway. This rail service started with the first train from Chicago arriving in Rock Island on February 22, 1854. Rock Island became "the terminal for great waves of immigrants seeking farm land." In 1876 several politicians boarded the train in Chicago at 8 a.m., stopped to make speeches along the way and arrived in Rock Island at 4 p.m. Reference: Illinois, a Descriptive and Historical Guide, second revised edition, copyright 1979, page 403.)*

The Mississippi steamer they boarded had come from as far south as St. Louis, Missouri, and perhaps New Orleans. There were cases of cholera on the boat when Gustaf's family boarded. Gustaf gave strict orders that his party should be isolated and under no circumstances was uncooked food to be consumed. He ordered that water should be avoided entirely while on the river trip. His youngest sister, Beata, who was apparently in good health when they left Chicago, disobeyed his order and took a bath. She contracted cholera and died before the boat left the Mississippi and entered the mouth of the St. Croix River. She is buried on the banks of the Mississippi River *(place unknown)*. Due to the cholera on board, the party was quarantined on an island north of Stillwater near the "boom" (Lamar's Island) in the St. Croix River.

Gustaf Bloom, having been in America for one year by this time, was working on a farm north of Stillwater when he learned that a Swedish family had not been allowed to land in Stillwater because of a cholera scare. Gustaf became much concerned about the family as he was a newcomer to this land and not too well at ease in the language and customs of the country. Here was a family out in the cold. Gustaf had

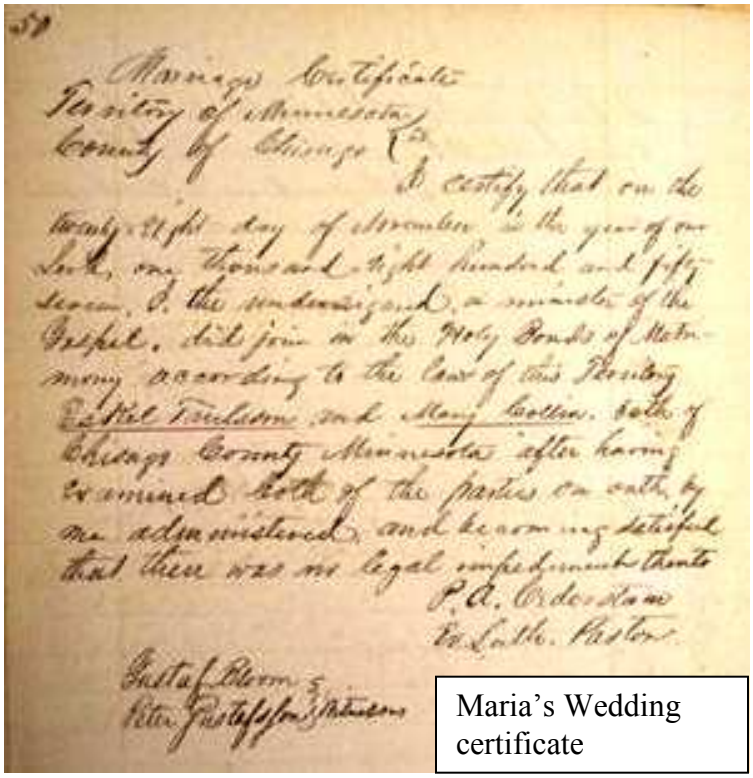
Note by Milan Bloom: The loggers of white pines, some standing one hundred feet tall and five feet in diameter, needed a way to sort the flood of timber carried on the currents of the St. Croix from the northern forests. Their solution was a logging "boom" which was a barrier of floating logs stretched across the river to catch the logs for later sorting by the owner's brands. In 1851, the St. Croix Boom Company began operating about twenty miles north of Stillwater near Osceola, Wisconsin. The river proved too narrow there, so in 1856, two years after Gustaf and family arrived, the boom company moved their operation to a site two miles north of Stillwater. (Reference: Minnesota, second edition, by Greg Breining, 1997, 2000 Fodor's Travel publications, pp. 203-204.) Although the story has come down to us that Lamar's island was "near the boom", it was twenty miles north of Stillwater in 1854. It is likely that when the story was retold in later years, the 1856 "boom" location, just two miles north of Stillwater became the intended reference point.

some dollars in his pocket, so he went to a dealer and obtained some provisions. He borrowed a boat and rowed out to the island. Then, in the words of one of the Bloom historians, "came down to the shore such a vision of beauty and spirit (Caroline Catrina Collin) as he never had seen before, not even in *Thorsjön* (Thor Lake) in his native Östra Thorsås". He fell violently in love at first sight with this daughter of Gustaf Collin and wished that she might become his own.

The Collin family left the island on August 8th and joined friends two days later in "Svedlake" (Chisago Lake, Center City, Minnesota). At some point Gustaf bought 120 acres in what was called a "klovet". This land was bought from the government for $1.25 per acre; Gustaf Bloom paid $5.00 per acre for his land. It was on this lakeshore bay that he built the house where he and his family lived for five years. *(This location is at or near the site of the Lindstrom-Center City High School and of the Lindstrom Cemetery. This is where Gustaf's grandsons August and Alfred Bloom and Great Grandson Earl Rudolph Bloom are buried.)*

(At this point in the story we need to go back to 1855 and introduce another player in the Collin story, Eskil Trulson. He was the future husband of Gustaf's youngest daughter, Maria.) In 1855, approximately four years before Gustaf traded for his property by his lake, Eskil Trulson had already purchased land there. Eskil also paid $1.25 per acre. It was located adjacent to Gustaf's future farm. Since Maria and Eskil were married in 1856, she was living on the lakeshore perhaps three to four years before Gustaf made his move at his approximate age of fifty-three. (*Is it possible that Gustaf and his first wife, Kristina, moved to this location to be near their daughter, Maria? Since Maria was Gustaf's youngest (age seventeen when married in 1856), it is doubtful that Gustaf had any children living at home when they moved. Eskil built a log house on his land for himself and Maria. On July 11, 1954, when the Collin family had a family reunion, the Hawkinson house was still standing, and the land was still in the possession of Maria's descendants.)*

In approximately 1859 Gustaf Collin traded his land for another piece of property previously purchased from the government by Tuve Trylson. This is the land that borders the lake that became known as "Collin's Lake". Here Gustaf built his second house, and there he lived until he was old and feeble at which time he and his second wife, Elizabeth, (his first wife died in April 1863) moved in with his granddaughter Hilda Hawkinson on her adjacent farm. *(Note: Both the Collin and Hawkinson farms are near Bloom's Lake.)*



Maria's Wedding certificate

Eskil died on October 1, 1875, when he was forty-six year old. His widow, Maria, and sixteen-year old daughter, Hilda, (they had no other children) continued to live on the farm with the help of Charles Hawkinson (b. 1856). Hilda and Charles were married on March 29, 1877, when she was seventeen and Charles was four years older. They had nine children and continued to live in the log house built by Eskil. Grandma Maria, who was a very kind and loving person, lived with them and helped her daughter until her family could help with the work. (*It is here that the record gets a little confusing. It would appear that because Hilda's family was growing, husband Charles built an addition to their log house. He eventually built a two-room house for Grandma Maria.)*

In April 1863, Gustaf's first wife, Kristine, died (b. 1797 m. October 31, 1830 d. April 1863). One sister, Catrina, and two brothers,

Carl and Magnus, survived her. In October of the same year Gustaf married Elizabeth Liljeblad (b. May 26, 1813, m. October 1963, d. April 27, 1900). When Hilda's Grandpa Gustaf became old and feeble, her husband, Charles, built "the smaller" two room addition to his (Charles and Hilda's) log house. This is where Gustaf and his second wife lived to the end of his days. Twenty-five years and six months after Gustaf and Elizabeth were married, Gustaf died on May 2, 1889, at the age of eighty-three. He died from what seems to have been a heart attack or stroke while he was on the Collin lakeshore. His granddaughter, Hilda, helped him to the house. He passed away about 4:30 p.m. that same day and was buried in the northwest corner of the Chisago Lake Cemetery. "Val den gode and trogne tjänare ga in I din Herres glädje: Well done good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of thy Lord." His second wife continued to live there for a time and then moved in with relatives to the southeast in Marine on St. Croix. She died on April 27, 1900, just short of eleven years after Gustaf's passing.

In 1908 Charles (age 53) and Hilda (age 49) retired from farming and moved to Center City. Grandma Maria moved in with them in 1909, and Hilda's son, Arthur (b. November 26, 1886) rented the farm and later bought the land. *(His son, Elliott, and family were still living there as of the time of the one hundredth Collin anniversary in 1954.)*

Gustaf Collin, being a cabinetmaker, carpenter and musician, built at least one of the several "Psalmodikons" (a one-stringed musical instrument) used by his congregation. He also built the first reed organ with "imported reeds that was used in the newly built church until a pipe organ was purchased. His three daughters (Carolina Catrina, Johanna and Maria) were members of the church's first choir.

Gustaf was not only a tiller of the soil, a musician, a cabinet maker, a layman preacher and teacher, but he also patiently gathered herbs in the timber with which he made early remedies for ills in the family and community. He was also an effective "layman physician" using his medical sketches and a copy of a Danish medical book published in 1577. (In 1876 he autographed this Danish book, and members of the family are thought to sill have it.) Dr. J. T. Holcomb, MD, Bethesda Hospital, recalls as a little child breaking his arm in a fall from a tree. Gustaf reset the arm with perfect results and grateful approval.

Remembrance by Hilda's son, Furman, who was still living in 1954:

"We, the great-grandchildren of Gustaf Collin, are grateful for his life of unselfish devotion to God and to the service of his fellowmen who he came in contact with, and our grandmother, Maria, youngest daughter of Gustaf and Mrs. Collin. When we think back over her life, it brings fond memories. We all admire her unselfish and cheerful life. To think back as we listened to her clear soprano voice sing song after song from her Psalm Book or Hemlandsånger, and this has left a deep impression on our lives. We can also see her at the spinning wheel transforming the carded wool into yarn she would sit spinning and reading her Augustana at the same time. And now, after a century has gone by, we thank God for the sacred heritage we are recipients of. Our grandparents were poor in earthly goods but rich in spiritual values, and of them we can truly say as in 2 Tim. 2:12 "I am not ashamed for I know Him whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to guard that which I have committed to Him against that day".

Bok is the Swedish spelling of "book"; Hemland (as in hemlandsånger) means "homeland"; sångare) means singer or song. In other words, her "homeland song book or singing book."

Some of the information was taken from "The Svedberg Saga" written in 1996 by Marjorie Johnson Svedberg, granddaughter of August Bloom. The rest is paraphrased by Milan Bloom. He used two family histories: one written by Mrs. Alfred Bloom (Aunt Minnie from the A. P. Glader family) and subsequently compiled and reproduced by the Reverend Wenzel Bloom. The other history was written for the Gustaf Collin reunion held at the Chisago Lake Lutheran Church on July 11, 1954.

An **Admonition from our beloved ancestor, Gustaf Collin**, written to his grandchildren (Wilhelm and Alfred) on the occasion of their confirmation, 6-2-1876. Translated by Wenzel Bloom on December 4, 1924, Chisago Lake.

Beloved Grandchildren, Grace and Peace from Him who was, who is, and who shall come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

I would like to write several lines to you at this precious occasion, but what shall I write that it might assist and comfort you? Lord reveal unto me what thou wouldst have me write. You have now completed your study for confirmation and period of instruction in learning that which you necessarily should know in

order to examine yourselves, as to whether you are true Christians and God's children by and through. Jesus Christ, God's Son, and worthy guests at the Lord's Supper, for it is written in the word of the Lord "whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup, for he eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body". (1 Cor. 11:27-29) Beloved children think about this, you must first be prepared in Christian knowledge in order that the congregation, may know whether you have a sincere Christian understanding which is necessary to be able to examine yourselves if you have the true faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

One does not have true faith in Jesus Christ simply through knowledge and in saying with one's mouth "I believe". No, one must reveal one's faith through works, faith without works is dead. But what shall the nature of these works be? Yes, behold God's Holy Law, observe it carefully. He tells us what works please God when they are of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and in love toward God. The Lord Himself says "he who has my commandments and keeps them, he is one who loves me and it is love for God that we keep His commandments and His commandments are not difficult, and if one considers each commandment for himself, he will see what works please God, and those which do not please God and these works are the fruits of a living faith, upon Jesus Christ, the Son of God, but when there is no such works, there is no true faith. If one believes in the Son of God, Jesus Christ our Lord, then the Holy Spirit will kindle the desire in man so that he will inwardly want to do the Will of the Lord and Saviour, and by the Grace of God he endeavours to do that which is pleasing in the sight of the Lord. A blessed person is then a child of God, not for the sake of works, but for the sake of Jesus, the Son of God, who purchased, redeemed and released us from all of our sins and from death, the power of Satan. And all of this, not with gold or silver, but what then, with His body, by His bitter suffering, with His Divine blood and His bitter death. Now when man through the Grace which cometh from the Holy Spirit, believes this and appropriates for himself that which Jesus has done in our place, behold, then the love of Jesus Christ shall cause men through the Grace of the Holy Spirit to please their Saviour.

Beloved children consider this well, we should not have any pleasure nor desire in doing that which worldly men think well of, and strive for, it is not the love which is of the children of the world which men should strive for, no, there should be another question, "how much did God love me," this goes beyond all human understanding, but the highest degree is "God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have eternal life, (John 3:16). Behold, this Love is that which shall cause man to worship his Creator, his Redeemer and his Sanctifier and afterward his brethren as himself, God cometh first in all things and afterward your brethren of whatever name they may have. Now, my dear children you have received all of this through Baptism and in your Baptismal Covenant have you received God's promise of Grace and therein become God's children and heirs, and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ and partaking of God's nature. Does this not go beyond all understanding, how, our Lord considers us worthy of all this? This is a question which might easily cause one amazement, but who is he, who with his material proofs can prove that he has become partaking of such an inestimable gift of Grace, and it makes one sad to see how men despite this precious inestimable thing, God's Grace in Christ Jesus. One is able to see belief in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and God's precious Word and the Holy Lord's Sacraments everywhere, but particularly in the Church where God has promised to be in the midst of us. There is indeed a great number who respect God's presence in their hearts and in the deepest humbleness invoke God their Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier and with a trusting heart make their confession of faith, and in what other way should a Christian's confession of faith be made, we believe, now one who will not, and who can not join us in our confession of faith, or who has not learned to understand this vital matter, he is not a Christian, nor has he any part in the precious gifts of salvation which the Lord Jesus has won for us.

Dear children, I earnestly ask you to think about this you have now in this time been able to gather some knowledge of these things, and now it is important that you pray to God for Grace from the Holy Spirit to understand that which you have gathered, and pray the Holy Spirit that He would for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Saviour awaken a true faith of life in Christ Jesus in your soul, for, knowledge will die, but the Spirit gives life, if man depends only on knowledge, one deceives himself. That which is received of the flesh is flesh and that which is of the Spirit, is the Spirit. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not say the truth. But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanseth us from all sin. (1 John 1:7) But he, yes whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man confess before the angels of God. (Luke 12:8)

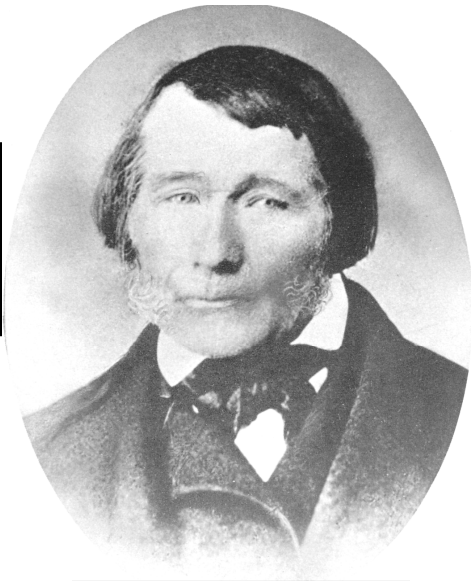
My beloved, you shall soon reveal your confession of faith to the Congregation-but do not permit it to be only a confession of your tongue, but a desire from your heart and that you yourself in a new endeavor, confirm your blessed promise with your God, the Father which is your Father, Creator and Supporter, the Son your Saviour through whom you should see Grace with God, and should seek as your light, who will lead you in all truth, enlighten your soul concerning the Lord Jesus, and discipline your heart when it inclines toward evil, and that He might be your Comforter and Consoler in every need. If you wish to be, and forever remain the children of God through faith on the Lord Jesus Christ, then this should be your principal objective, and then you will never permit any person nor occasion, judgment, or blame, or threat, draw you from your Jesus, then you shall love Him as He first loved you, and suffered Death for you, and in time of temptation, "why should I do so much evil toward God?".

Beloved, think about this, think about this during this most important event in your lives, both on Sundays and Mondays.

And now Lord God, Holy Trinity, bless these children, give them the Grace of the Holy Spirit to teach them to understand the importance of that precious promise which they shall confirm with thee, and fortify them in this promise unto death to the Glory of Thy Holy Name and praise for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Amen.

Your Grandfather GUSTAF COLLIN

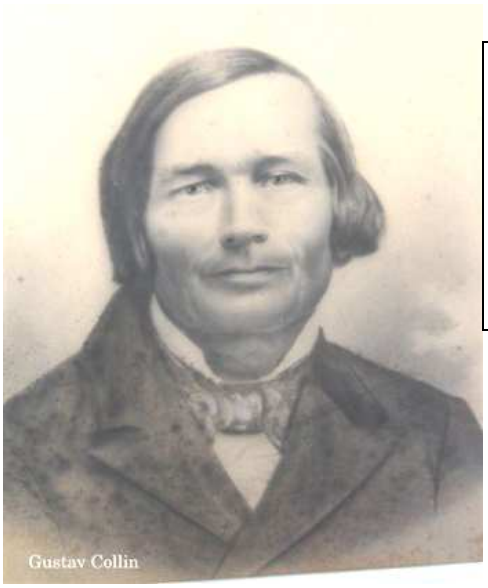
Marie Collin Trulson, Gustaf's daughter



Gustaf Collin 1806 -1889

Gustaf Collin
1806-1889

Gustaf Collin in his early years
Painting in the collection of Elliott Hawkinson, Great-Great-Grandson of Gustaf Collin – photo taken, July 2003



On the right this looks like Gustaf Collin but from research done in 2011 we know it's not- but who is it? Perhaps his nephew who also came to America in later years.

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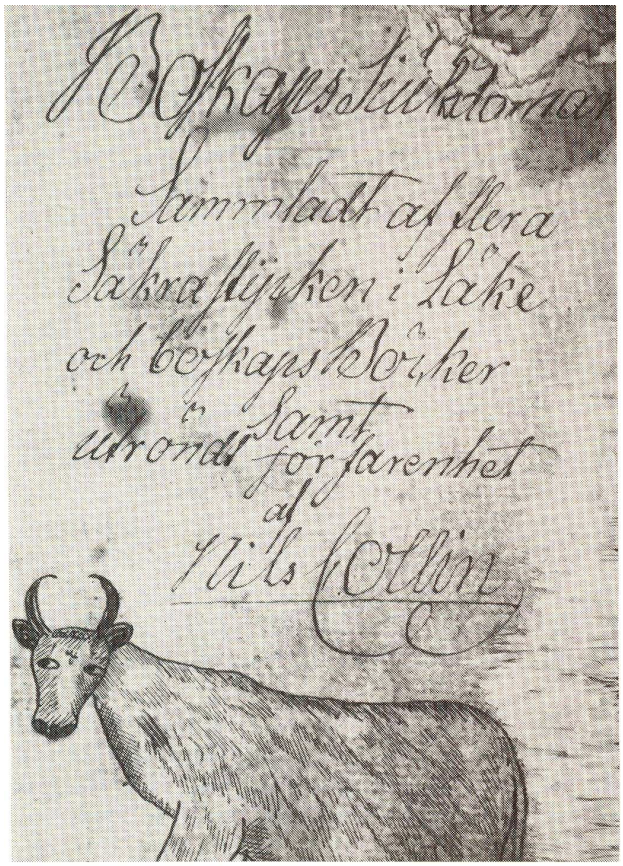
Forward: *This is the most definitive, presumably very accurate family story written by our cousin Dr. Anton Richard Rose (son of Christine Bloom Rose). Anton went to Sweden in 1929 to get much of this information, knew many of the characters personally and was present as some of the events unfolded. It was Anton who told his mother that Gustaf Collin had just died. You will find that it contradicts some of our other cherished stories, (for example the date the Collins arrived in America and the exact circumstances of Grandpa Collin's death). Anton never identifies himself but refers to himself as the "writer", "lad of ten" and "little shaver". Pay particular attention to the scene in Chicago when Gustaf's oldest daughter died. How our beloved Gustaf must have felt at that moment with the burden his daughter placed on him. This document was sent to Milan Bloom by Ralph LeVine, grandson of Wilhelm Bloom.*

Milan Bloom, Great-Great-Grandson of Gustaf Collin'. June 18, 2002.



Försättsbladet till en skrift om boskapssjukdomar, skriven av Nils Eliasson Collin, soldat i rote 106 Kållebo 1791—1806, död 1827.

Collin Draft from which first typed copy was made - ARR

**From Anton Rose we read: "*The sketch shown is an example of some beautiful script by down by Grandpa Nils. It is a free flowing script indicating that he did not confine his writing to rare occasions - but was limited more by the price of paper than lack of inclination. Nils could also draw and his sketches show good draftsmanship - from which one infers that he drew often. In his notes we have Greek words and Latin phrases. He was undoubtedly clever and likely a lively, witty chap - his sketches have a twinkle. He was born in 1771 and died in 1827.*
We regret not knowing him better."

And from Cousin Laurie Svedberg who provided the translation at the bottom of the sketch:
The sketch is signed by Grandpa Nils Eliasson Collin and it reads "Move the page to the writing about cattle disease, written by Nels Eliasson Collin, soldier in rote 106 Kållebo from 1791-1806. Died 1827."
"Rote" is an old word meaning one or more farms that had to sponsor. This started in the 17th century and ended a bit more than a hundred years ago.

The name Collin' has been given to soldiers in the Swedish army who come from Kållebo. Collins and others with variants of this name are not necessarily related. Kållebo is a community (by) in the parish - Älmeboda. This parish is in the "härad" - Kunga. This "härad" is Kronobergs Län and this "Län" is one of three that constitute "landskapet" Småland. The other two Län are - Jönköping and Kalmar to the north and east. South of Kronoberg is Blekinge - a "landskap" and a "län - and the "län"-Halland. Kronobergs län is distinctive. It has an ancient and heroic history-the earliest caudasian {sic} on the Scandia Peninsula. Ethnically it is people by Goths and of the Goths the most self-reliant and self-sufficient- "the Jews of Sweden". They are the descendants of the "Virdarna" – inhabitants of Wärend. It is not clear if they were rooted in the later Stone Age or earliest Bronze Age. They are very anciently Swedish (geographic). Wärend covered all of Kronobergs Län east of Allbo Härad – some of this härad – and a narrow fringe of Kalmar and Blekinge Läns. These migrants presumably came in by way of Runneby (the coast town in Blekinge) worked up the Runneby, å watercourse to Helge sjö. What is now Växjö and Tegnaby were ancient Wärend centers. They drove before them humans who had come even earlier (glacial period) and recurrent friction with these have come to us as "heathen tales" – trolls, wood spirits, etc. (Mrs. Berg – mother of Aunts Ida and Helen - knew many of these old Småland hobgoblin stories.) It also is not clear to the writer – in western half of Allbo härad and Sunnerbo härad and southwestern part of Jönköping there were the Finns (not related to Finland – Soumi – Finns). These were earlier than the Wärends and ethnically quite different (Early Stone Age). They were disseminated in the woods and also absorbed by Goths and Norse. In Sweden are Gypsies – the Romany tribe – also another nomad – not Lapp – not Gypsy – less progressive than either of these two – barely maintaining themselves from generation to generation. The writer had never heard of them until he came across a family in Småland and it was explained to him that they were not Gypsies. The chauffeur–guide could give no concrete information. Were they descendants of the ancient Finns? Or like Gypsies- foreign?

Älmeboda lies in the southeast corner of the "härad". There is another parish – Långasjö – more easterly (refer to map). A parish divides itself into "Byar". A "By" is a community – maybe a village. The "Byar" in Älmeboda that relate to our family: Broddamåla, Trällebo, Estarmåla, Yxnanäs, Brunsmåla, Kållebo, Kärsnär (Blom) Kållebo there lived a Nils, the son of a soldier, and himself a cavalry man. His father was also a tailor. He was known as Nils Collin'. His birthplace and kin have not been discovered by his American kin, nor his father's name. The name may have been assigned him when he joined the army – more likely he may have gotten it from his father who was a "Collin'". Non-soldiers whose fathers were "Collins'" – like our Gustaf and Gustaf Collin' in Falsebo – carried it name. We have reason to believe that he was somewhat more than an ordinary grubbing mortal. There an indistinct hearsay came down the family grape vine that he "lost property" – i.e. was once "hereskap", but had to be satisfied as a

This is a Barn as seen today in Brunsmåla

"torpare". We know that by 1806 he was not so well to do. In 1817 he had to move and settle down on a "torp in Brunsmåla". He must have been an educated man – or unusually bright. The grapevine says that he had a brother, Pontin, in one of the learned professions. We couldn't find this Pontin, but the name gave a flicker of respect when it was brought up.

House in Brunsmåla. Goes with barn above.

All Swedes can read – ever since 1520 when it became required that they read the Bible and report on it, but in 1800 relatively few could write. Hence, the credit of the Bloms up in Östra Torsås - one of the young ladies was married to "skrivare" which means "printer" Viden'. Not that he was a writer for the press nor a member of "Akadamien". He was a writer for the poor devil who couldn't write a sweet note to his sweetheart. We have some beautiful script by Nils – a free flowing script indicating that he did not confine his writing to rare occasions – but was limited more by the price of paper than lack of inclination. Nils could also draw and his sketches show good draftsmanship – from which one infers that he drew often. In his notes we have Greek words and Latin phrases. These may have been mere embellishments, but we like to think that he knew the meanings of them and placed them in spontaneously. He was undoubtedly clever and likely a lively, witty chap – his sketches have a twinkle. He died in 1826, and we regret not knowing him better. Nils married a daughter of Kållebo. The father's name was Karl, so she was listed in the records as Ingeborg Karlsdotter – "hans Hustru". She survived Nils. She may have been small, she may have been large, and she was probably fair. Three of her granddaughters would be described as pale. The fourth granddaughter was not a giant. This robust granddaughter may have inherited from the mother's genes, the writer's impression of her (Maria Collin' Trulson) is that she is not characteristically "Collin'" – assuming that Gustaf Collin' favored his father, rather the delicate intellectual type. This does not mean that either Ingeborg or Maria had a low intelligence quotient. The evidence is to the contrary. Ingeborg is long since gone, and there is no available description about her. We cannot know what her body or spirit was like. We know however that she was competent. The raw nature surrounding her was severe. Out of meager sections of the "härad" – the writer's impressions of it is like that of "Connecticut" (All of Kronoberg is Connecticut and Kållebo the pebbliest and most boulderish) – must have been the nose of the old north glacier. She did well in it and did well by her family. Between the lines of son Gustaf's notes is a suggestion of praise and appreciation.

Gustaf Collin and his first wife Kristina Jaensdotter Before 1863.

Nils and Ingeborg lived in a nice though small cottage. It is assumed that this house was a "Soldats torp" (Soldiers cottage – regular army men were quartered on farms, given a bit of land to garden and they did some work for the owner) but it may have been their very own – before "Nils lost his property". We made a trip to get a snap shot of this place. When we found it, it had been moved some 300 ft. The old setting was almost without evidence of having had a home, so the move must have been a generation ago. The house was now used for tools and things. The folks on the "heregård" were not at home. When we peeked through the windows, the corners were all too dark to see anything.

To reach this place we wound up a crooked stony land – very poor road, like most roads in our Småland. It was up and up most of the way with turns and twists. It may have been beautiful but was hard sledding. There were no road signs –nor any pedestrians – and we were uncertain of our direction. One of us got out to inquire. This one who was to inquire was once a little shaver in Minnesota – in an old community in Minnesota where a bit of Småland had been transplanted. When this little shaver approached his grandfather's back door, there was a large flat sandstone by the porch, a place to stamp off the mud or dust. When he got up on this big sandstone, there to the right of the door he saw a row of wooden shoes! He could tell by the shoes who was in – provided, of course, they hadn't gone visiting in store shoes. So here – by the Kållebo roadside – he stepped up on a large flat stone and to the right of the door were wooden shoes – a big pair for papa, a smaller pair for mother and three tiny pairs for the little tots. Evidently they were all at home, and somebody could give information. There was no response to the knock at once. The little tots were making such a racket! Then a lean and pale faced man with a weekly newspaper in his hand glared disapprovingly at the "auslander" who was also a little timid, curious, peeked face looking scared from behind his legs. The country is poor, miserably poor. This man was poor, and the child looked under-nourished. When Gustaf Collin' left for America, his notes refer to "dyrtid" – depressing poverty. That was our beginning from this glacier deposit hill and meager soil.

Beginning of the Bloom and Collin Story (by Anton)

"*When this little man met an acquaintance, he would take him by the hand ----and begin gently to talk - inquiring about the family. Before he let him go, -----he would have delivered a sermonette, ----maybe also a prayer, ----unconscious of time passing by.*"

The Swedes from Småland were known in Minnesota as the "Wooden Shoe People." This picture was taken just a few yards from where Gustaf Blom was born east of Ingelstad. Picture taken by David Broberg (family of Helena) as he approached from the north east side coming from Rottnen lake and Hwy 25 (June 2008).

To this pair in Kållebo were born six children, the oldest our Gustaf. There were Maria, Anna and Beata. The order of sequence may not have been just so - but Beata was the youngest of all. There was an Erland who did not live so very long and Carl who became "Grim", the soldier and later itinerate tailor in Chisago County early days. In Sweden brothers need not carry the same family name. Names didn't mean so much. To us it is odd to have brothers – one called Carl Grim and the other Gustaf Collin'. We have in our Bloom roster a man whose father is Johnson, whose uncle is Leffler and Gustaf Blom was found in one church record as Anders Gustaf Carlsson.

Since she won't fit into the story later, we'll just dispose of Anna. We don't know her at all. This "fräken" married a son of a Karl. They had sons who all came to America and became Carlsons of Fish Lake. There were Elias and Nils; maybe there were others. Nils became blind. There seems to be an inherent eye gene that was brought into the Collin' strain. A grandson of Nils is the Rev. Lenert Collin'. Elias was the father of a Carl Johan who became the Rev. C.J. Collin'. The Rev. C.J. was helped to his education by Gustaf Collin'. When he retired, he lived in Chisago City where he died recently.

Nothing is known about Maria, but Gustaf Bloom's children knew Carl Grim very well. When he came to America, he stayed for a while with Gustaf Bloom. He returned regularly on his round of sewing men's clothes. Store clothing was not available and not at all desirable in the way of cloth. When the writer was a little shaver, he saw on the old Collin' place a wooden saw. It was red-weathered oak. It had no teeth. In fact it was not a saw though shaped like the butcher's saw. It was used to "chop" flax – to break up the crude stems so that fine flax fibers could be got. This flax mat - linen – was spun and woven into cloth to make covers, shirts, and dresses. The writer also saw in the Bloom attic a loom on which Grandma wove carpets – Mother's real mother had woven flax cloth on this heavy, very fascinating tool when Mother was a child. For shoes a log of birch was cut and a funny sort of "scoopy" knife hollowed it out to make wooden shoes. The most skillful man at this was old man "Cöjeansen" who lived about three miles south

of Chisago City; his real name was Noreen. In Grandpa Bloom's house was a funny sort of bench. It was low as a chair with a comfortable seat at one end – sort of a shallow crib ending in a set of drawers at the other. There were interesting tools, an odd looking hammer, knives not like ordinary knives, sharp pointed things and lots of pig's long-hair. I was there waiting for the shoemaker to come. I remember the old cobbler who teased us youngsters. And then there was the tailor – Carl Grim. (Gustaf Collin also had a nephew by the same name. Comment added Milan Bloom).

There was a trial by jury in Wyoming – a community some ten miles west of the Svedlek center. This center was begun quite a bit of time after the Svedlek, so the jury may have been called about Civil War days. Gustaf Bloom was called and arrived dressed in his best, and "his best" took the center of the stage. He had a suit made by his father-in-law's brother Carl Grim – first *he* man tailored combination in that neck of the woods – and it must have a sensation. The little Kristina, Gustaf's daughter, remembers all about it at this very late date after the event. Folks in those days had few dress clothes and what they had, had to last for years.

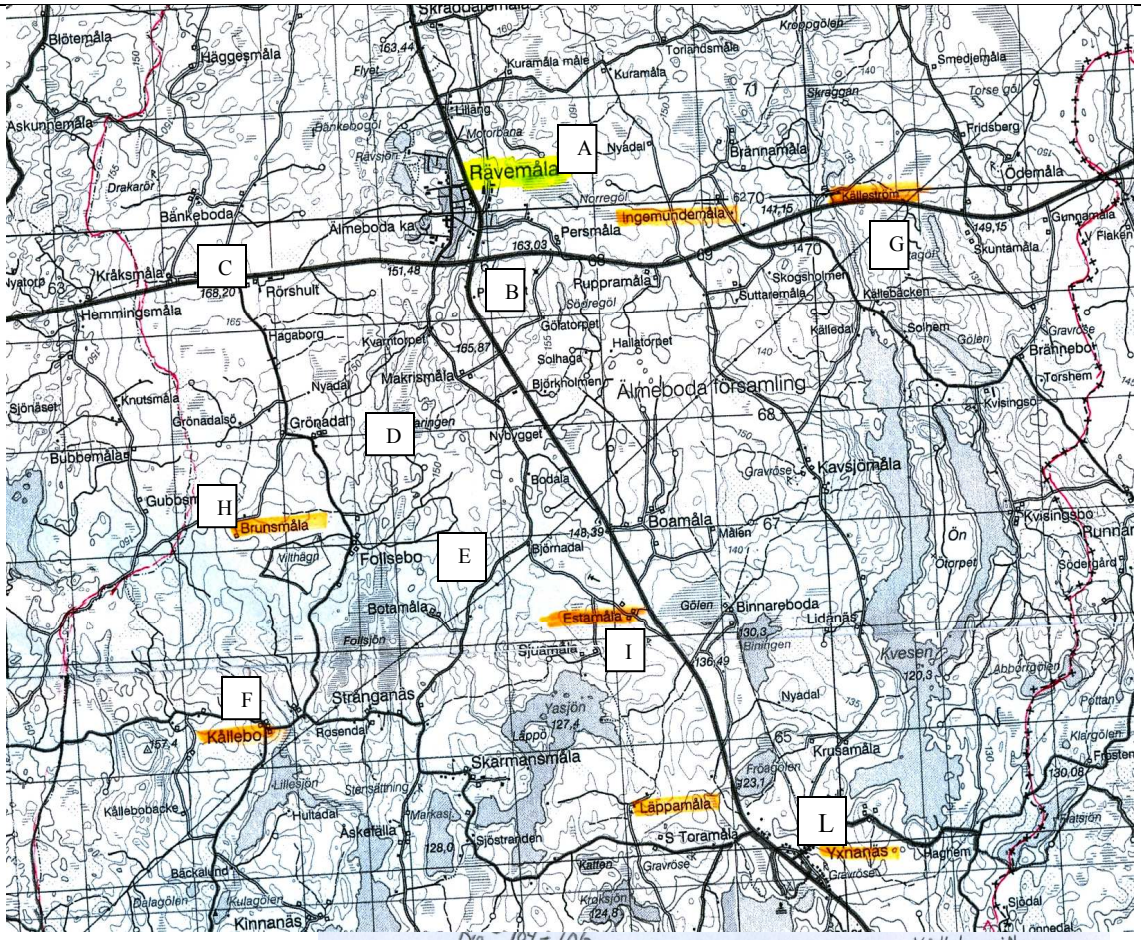
Carl Grim had two daughters, Hilda and Augusta. These two seemed inseparable. Hilda married a cabinetmaker (Johnson) in St. Paul, and Augusta lived in their house. The house was within a few blocks of the State Capitol Building. There were five children. Sofia was a school teacher and childhood friend of Jennie Rose. Two boys followed their father in business doing nice woodwork in office buildings, banks, etc.; one was name Carl. There were two girls who died young of tuberculosis.

Gustaf Collin' was born in the nice little red cottage with white trimmings that stood on the stingy, almost barren although beautiful hill in Kållebo. He was the son of a cavalry man and arrived on the tenth day of March 1806. When he was eleven years old, the family moved to a "torp" in Brunsmåla. Three years later we find him in Yxnanäs on a "herregård" by name "Stenbärsholm". The folks here may have been kin – more likely, however, he was farmed out for his keep. Hired child labor was not uncommon in those days. While there he was confirmed in the Lutheran Church. Later he did odds and ends in the neighborhood around Brunsmåla. In April, 1822, when he was 16 years old, he was apprenticed as a carpenter in Karlskrona, Blekinge. For seven years he was a "Lärling". On October 16, 1829, at the age of twenty-three years he was released as a full-fledged wood worker, and a good one he was.

A mile or so east of Ingelstad is the Blom area.
Rävemåla (just a couple of miles south of Älmeboda) is the Collin area.
(Note: The "Ä" in Älmeboda is correct)

Gustaf Collin's Birth Place in Kållebo

To get to Kållebo **Latitude:** 56° 31' 00" N **Longitude:** 15° 14' 00" E: From Rävemåla (A) go south on highway 122 to highway 120. Turn west on highway 120 (B). Head west on 120 for about 2,000 meters and then turn south (C) and drive south to Grönadal (D) than to Follsebo (E) and then continue on south to Kållebo (F). It is about 4,000 meters south of highway 120. Note: Taking 120 east at (B) goes to Gustaf Collin's mill at Kållesträm (G). (H) is where the Gustaf's parents lived at one point, (I) is where Gustaf Collin was living and farming when he sold this farm and went to America, (L) where Gustaf Collin father moved the family in 1817.

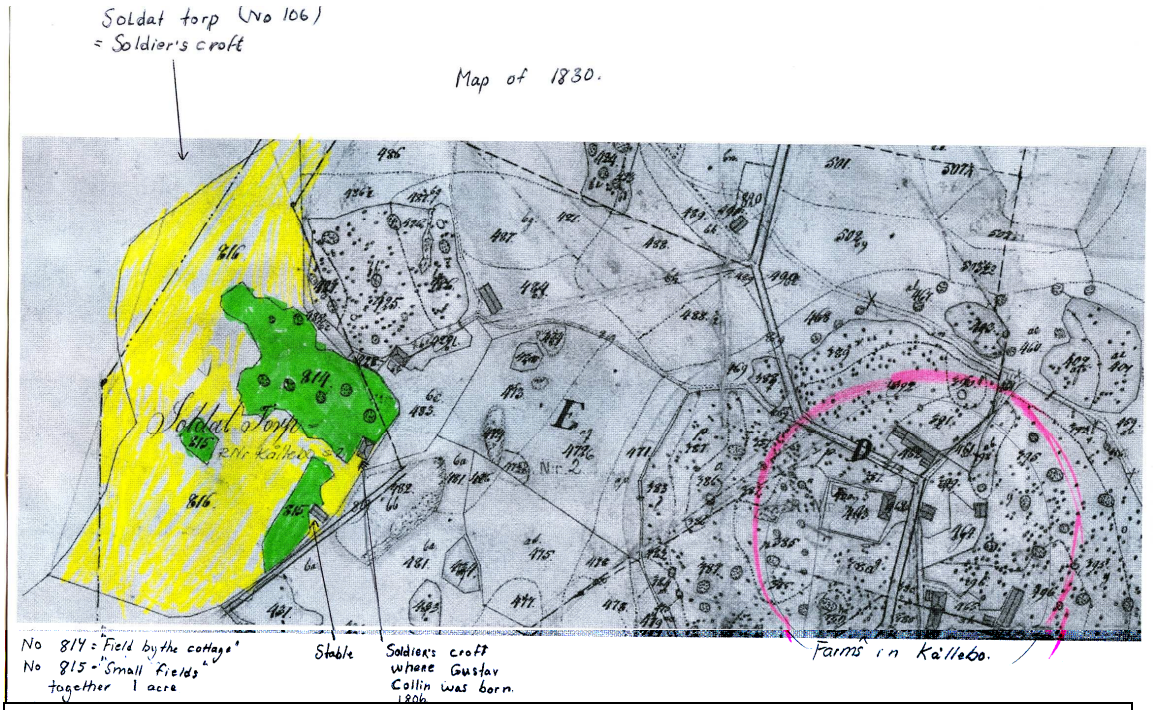

A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
I
L
Rävemåla
Älmeboda församling
Follsebo
Kållebo
Stranganäs
Skarmansmåla
Kållebobacke
Kinnanäs
Persmåla
Ingemundemåla
Kållesträm
Boamåla
Kavsjömåla
Binnareboda
Yxnanäs
Lappamåla
Brunsmåla
Botamåla
Grönadal
Rörshult
Kråksmåla
Hemmingsmåla
Bubbemåla
Knutsmåla
Bånkeboda
Askunnemåla
Blötemåla
Häggesmåla
Kuramåla
Brännamåla
Ödemåla
Skuntamåla
Skogsholmen
Kållebacken
Kvisingsbo
Runnar
Kvesen
Krusamåla
S Toramåla
Sjöstranden
Rosendal
Hultadal
Askefälla
Bäckalund
Kulagölen
Balagölen
Nyadal
Makrismåla
Knutsmåla
Hagaborg
Kvarntorpet
Solhaga
Hallatorpet
Björkholmen
Nybygget
Bodala
Gravrösa
Sjöstad
Lönnedal
Hagnem
Torshem
Brännebo
Solhem
Kalledal
Suttaremåla
Ruppramåla
Persmåla
Ingemundemåla
Kållesträm
Fridsberg
Smedjemåla
Skräggan
Torse göl
Kuramåla måle
Torlandsmåla
Kreppgölen
Lillang
Motorbana
Ravsjön
Drakarör
Flyet
Fstamåla
Sjuamåla
Lappö
Yasjön
Follsjön
Vilthagn
Mälen
Björnadal
Gravrösa
Kattpo
Kraksjön
Ön
Ötorpet
Södergård
Abborrtjärn
Poltan
Klergölen
Frösten
Nyadal
Gölen
Lidanäs
Blåsjön
Stensättning
Lillesjön
Markasj
Kållebobacke
Hultadal
Askefälla
Bäckalund
Kulagölen
Balagölen
Kinnanäs
Kraksjön
Fröagölen
Norregöl
Södregöl
Gölen
Gravrösa
Kvisingsbo
Torshem
Brännebo
Solhem
Kalledal
Kållebacken
Suttaremåla
Skogsholmen
Ruppramåla
Persmåla
Ingemundemåla
Kållesträm
Fridsberg
Ödemåla
Gungamåla
Skuntamåla
Smedjemåla
Skräggan
Torse göl
Kuramåla måle
Torlandsmåla
Kreppgölen
Lillang
Motorbana
Ravsjön
Drakarör
Flyet
Bånkeboda
Askunnemåla
Blötemåla
Häggesmåla
Kuramåla
Brännamåla
Nyadal
Älmeboda kapell
Rörshult
Kråksmåla
Hemmingsmåla
Hagaborg
Kvarntorpet
Nyadal
Makrismåla
Knutsmåla
Grönadalsö
Grönadal
Bubbemåla
Gubbsn
Brunsmåla
Follsebo
Botamåla
Vilthagn
Follsjön
Stranganäs
Rosendal
Kållebo
Skarmansmåla
Kållebobacke
Lillesjön
Stensättning
Markasj
Hultadal
Askefälla
Sjöstranden
Bäckalund
Kulagölen
Balagölen
Kinnanäs
Solhaga
Hallatorpet
Göötatorpet
Björkholmen
Nybygget
Bodala
Gravrösa
Kattpo
Kraksjön
Ön
Ötorpet
Södergård
Abborrtjärn
Poltan
Klergölen
Frösten
Nyadal
Gölen
Lidanäs
Blås

Collin birth place as Anton found it in 1929. Anton says this is the actual house. If not we are within a few feet of the right spot.

Gustaf Collin's Birth Place in Kållebo

Rote Nr. 106 Kållebo

Picture taken by Anton Rose 1929


Soldat torp (No 106)
= Soldier's croft
Map of 1830.
No 814 = "Field by the cottage"
No 815 = "Small fields"
together 1 acre
Stable
Soldier's croft where Gustav Collin was born. 1806
Farms in Kållebo.

No 814 = "Field by the cottage" Stable"
No 815 = "Small fields"
Together 1 acre (1.21 acres U.S.)
No 816 = "Meadow" 5 acres (6 acres U.S.)
On the map we see that the fields of the soldier's croft are very well kept with a few big heaps of stone whereas the other fields on the map also show a lot of small stones. No 106 had comparatively big field and ok soil so at the end of the 19th century, the soldiers of No 106 were not entitled to as much subsistence as were the other solders with poorer fields.

The current place where the 1929 picture was taken by Anton. Here we see in and around where Anton was and took his 1929 Kållebo picture of Gustaf Collin's birth place. This is as it existed in 2007. Most pictures above and following were taken in 2007 by Bodil Stefansson and Ingvar Malmberg from Torekov, Båstad Municipality, Sweden.

Pictures in Kållebo: Picture on the left is a view from the soldiers croft rote nr. 104 which is still called the "Collin Croft." It is a little confusing but the Collins lived in both rote nr. 104 and 106 at one time or another. Rote 104 was part of the Mellangård (middle farm) but we don't know which farm that was. The house in the picture taken by Anton is gone but was within the red fence to the right of the picture on the left.

Close-up picture (on the right above). The barn, and small hills on both sides of the road are exactly the same as when Anton was here in 1929.

(Anton continues)

Having finished his trade training, he was ready to face the world on his own. He possessed no tools. To do his work he had to borrow where he could find. He was industrious and had plenty to do. It speaks well for his skill, industry and intelligence that in this miserable poor community he prospered. In these matters he had a wise counselor in his mother and perhaps also a motivator to make him forge ahead. By 1830 he assumed the responsibility of a "torp" – "Broddamåla". For this undertaking he required a wife. His mother selected one for him, and he writes that he was grateful to this understanding mother for picking him one – not only physically strong, healthy, intelligent and competent – but also very beautiful!

What is left of the soldattorp rote 104. It is almost impossible to see but the sign on the right is stamped with the number 104. I don's have a photograph of rote 106 but I do know that the last soldier left there in 1887. Of course Gustaf Collin had been in America for over 30 years by then.

This mate to Gustaf Collin' was Kristina Jaensdotter, daughter of Jöns Karlsson and Karin of Ljuders parish. The Ljuder and Älmeboda churches are 16 Kilometers apart so the bride may have come some twenty or more miles. A hundred miles means nothing to us, but in those days that was a long distance. She was born the tenth of August in 1797. On her marriage date, the 31st of October, she was thirty-three years, two months and some three weeks old to Gustaf's, twenty-four and a half years.

They lived on this torp for sixteen years. It may very well be that most of the work and management fell to the lot of Kristina. Gustaf had carpentry to attend to. We may here speak of a Virdar law. Virdarne were the people who dwelt in Wärend. They had some clarified and classified laws – definitely though not

written – long prior the Middle Ages before Sweden was Sweden (politically speaking). These laws have in large part persisted to our own time and influenced the life and ways of the race that developed in Kronobergs Län. One of these called for brother and sister sharing the property of the parent alike. This and others of like tenor placed the women on an equitable footing with the men and also gave the women a sense of responsibility in the community itself, Cf. The Wärend legends {sic} were in fights with the Danes. The lot of a wife of Gustaf was not that of a pampered darling who could loll about the hours. Her hand was soiled by the barnyard and back ached by the toil in the field. Gustaf was a mild – mannered, a kindly, just and considerate man. Judging from his written statements, he was probably also affectionate. In spite of all that, we are inclined to the notion that he was a problem to his women folks and required some attention. He gave the impression of not being a good farmer in Minnesota. His farm was farmed. His grain needed cutting – he was not there but the grain got cut. Certain casual expressions heard by a little fellow created certain implications. (There is a certain Bronson in the history of American culture, and what would have happened to this beautiful soul had not the practical Alcott women been at hand?) He had a beautiful personality and was a disregarder of material necessities. He tinkered with interesting things. He was a dreamer of beautiful dreams and, in this particular case, an exceedingly pious follower of Jesus Christ who thought the life hereafter the only matter worthwhile. He lived in a world above this world, and his life mate had to shoulder the load of the world of reality about them. This she did with will and with a cheerful competence. Near the end she went blind. Even then she carried on with patience and fine spirit. She died of cerebral hemorrhage in the month of April, 1863.

This man! Some of us worship his memory. He was a potent power in the lives of pioneering men and women in Chisago County and also beyond its borders. Some of these expressed themselves as if believing him in possession of supernatural gifts. Miracles were attributed to him – not exactly to him but to God through him. He was in communication with God, and to them this was more than their own faith in prayer. Those of us who have less belief in the direct intervention of a supreme being in the material world than highly spiritual individuals do, stand in admiration before these highly disciplined, beautiful personalities of lofty ideals and brotherliness who live on in their achievements after their body cells have ceased to function! On account of the attitude of this community to this remarkable man, he was consulted for comfort and aid in spiritual trouble, bereavement, sickness and apprehensive distress.

I remember him as a little old man. He was known as “Morfar”. He wore homemade clothes. They seemed excessively heavy. His fine round head and thin hands stuck out of them. At rest the left hand clasped the back of the right. His stance was firm and square. He stooped slightly, and his right shoulder was considerable lower than his left (a suggestion of a marked lateral curvature of the spine). His gaze was forward and seemingly fixed way beyond us. He saw with his mind’s eye. The eyes were a washed out blue, small, slightly squinty and far apart. The lips were thin and those of a toothless man. His hand was compressed over a small mouth. He was always sober. I never saw him smile. He had a quiet tenor voice the essence of mildness and kindness with a slight tremor. His speech, though not overly aggressive, had a quiet, positive assurance. He was not very wrinkled (at eighty), nor was he bald. His hair was thin but covered the entire scalp, dark gray in color and long (not to the shoulders). His face was always smoothly shaven. He probably had never exceeded 5 ft. 4 in. in height nor exceeded 135 lbs. There was probably a time when he was very strong for his 130 lb., quick and accurate in action. When this little man met an acquaintance, he would take him by the hand and begin gently to talk inquiring about the family. Before he let him go, he would have delivered a sermonette, maybe also a prayer, unconscious of time passing by.

One cannot contemplate or discuss Gustaf Collin’ without a reference to religion. He was an ardent Christian. Religion was his life, and it was not a “Hell Fire” religion. It was an adoring religion. He was a proselytor, a condemner of the frivolous life, but he condemned no one to hell. He was a strict observer of old-fashioned privation Sabbath but did not insist on children being laced in “straight jackets” on Sunday.

At the turn of the century (1800), the state church of Sweden was indifferent, and the morals of the people were decadent. A revulsion to this had set in which in some instances took a fanatic turn. There were new sects and spiritual revivals with the Evangelical Lutheran Organization itself. A leader of one of the latter was the Rev. Pehr Newman. Then followers of these groups were derisively labeled “Läsare”. About the year 1825 Gustaf Collin’ came under the influence of this Rev. Neuman and was in the midst of a circle of “Läsare” – probably an active center of it. Later this circle included Gustaf Peterson (b. 1825, father of Folkskol Lärare A. Elmstrand with whom I held conversations about these matters). I infer that he was an active center because he was the subject of some print in a Swedish book.

Gustaf Collin’, the Minnesota pioneer, was a healer and bonesetter. These terms are not used here in a derogatory way. He did heal both body and soul, and he did set bones. Although he was decades behind

his time in medical matters, he adhered to what he had learned from hearsay and old books and what he observed in practice. He had an old medical book written in Danish that had been his father's. Some of his concoctions are consistent with our recent knowledge – as, for instance, dandelion and nettle soups in the spring helped replenish the winter–drained vitamin A. He was a great help to the community and much in demand. For this service which must have taken much of his time he undoubtedly received some gifts, like gifts in those days to the parish minister – when the grain got ripe, it got cut somehow. A conspicuous instance: The St. Paul and Duluth Railroad had built a branch line from Wyoming to Taylors Falls. At the time of this building the young folks gathered about the works idly fooling around. One Sunday afternoon they romped and climbed about some flat cars at the proposed station of Center City and a car got rolling. Someone got caught between two cars, and her ribs were broken. Gustaf properly mended them. He also set Dr. Holcomb's broken arm perfectly. On all occasions like these there were suitable sermons and admonitions. Before each such task was begun, the pious healer dropped to his knees in ardent prayer. He did not do anything – he was merely the tool of the greatest of healers. Sometimes there was a little humor although never levity with Gustaf. On one occasion Gustaf Collin' had spoken openly and severely about frivolity among the young and particularly about recent barn dances. Young men took umbrage at these sermons. In the dark of one evening as the pious healer strolled home from a case, he felt a smart rap across his left shoulder from a stick. The next day a young man had an accidental fall and broke the left collarbone. When it was being fixed, he meekly confessed to Gustaf Collin' that it was he who struck him. This to us is classed as an odd coincidence – to the pioneers of that day it was not a mere coincidence.

This man's life in the new settlement had many "coincidences". He was not a man of idle words and to himself he was no hero. He had great self-respect and assurance, but aside from this, his most prominent characteristic was a deep pious humility. That which was purely of himself was not expounded. He had visions. He believed in the supernatural. There were probably only a very small part of these revealed to his neighbor. There is one told by the companion of the occasion: Somewhere in western Wisconsin – not so far from the St. Croix River – a child took sick. The anxious father went to fetch Collin'. It was late in the day when he arrived, and it was long after sunset when he had returned home with Gustaf. By the way, from where the country unknown to Gustaf Collin' up to the home of the little girl, there was a high wall – so that if Gustaf had driven it alone – he would have arrived without delay or doubts of the destination. The father who drove the cart saw no wall and learned about it on inquiring how Gustaf came to know this road he had never before traveled.

Gustaf Collin' drove a mare to make his calls. Drove is not the right expression. If she took a notion to nibble grass by the roadside, that was all right. Gustaf did not urge her to march forward. He sat quietly contemplating the loneliness of nature and goodness of God. It was said that "Dokken" ate her oats on a porcelain plate on Sundays. Two of the Bloom boys went fishing. On the way home they stopped at his cottage to share with him their catch. There was no one at home, so a mess of nice sunfish were hung on his front gate. This fish spoiled because Gustaf was waiting for someone to come and claim them.

Back a few pages where we digressed we got (spoke of) Kristina, dead of cerebral hemorrhage. This nice young couple - Gustaf and Kristina were living together in a nice red "torp" cottage with white trimmings and a chimney through the middle of the roof ridge, the chimney venting two fire places – one narrow and decorative with a peaked top, the other rather flattish with the table (or anvil of whatever the bottom part of a furnace is called) about fifteen inches above the floor. On it were iron and copper utensils standing on their legs or hanging from a bar, so the firewood could be arranged neatly underneath. It was a small house and a comfy home. It was a candle-lit place by night. It had peace and quiet, and there was reading of books that were old and cherished that had been read many times both by Gustaf and his father Nils. I can see Gustaf reading aloud and Kristina's fingers busy with needle and thread. Maybe Gustaf had the candle midway between his face and the pages of his book as I have seen Grandpa Gabrielson do. We wouldn't like this place at all since we have lived with plumbing and electricity, monthly and weekly periodicals, and we didn't have to drop firewood. Here they lived comfortably and presumably very happy.

To this "stuga" (cottage) came a daughter the second of September, 1831. They called her Anna. She grew up to be a very bright girl. She probably took after Kristina. She became practical and competent, and Gustaf came to rely on her in many business matters – as later a younger Gustaf came to rely on the cleverness and judgment of her younger sister. She became a "little mother" to the little girls who came to this same cottage later. Caroline came on the twenty-fourth of October, 1833, Johanna, the twentieth of November, 1836, and the baby Maria in 1839, June the sixth. She was very much attached to this family that was tragic in the end.

By 1846 (when he was forty years old) he had prospered sufficiently to avail himself of an investment opportunity. Älmeboda lies in the southeastern corner of "Old Wärend" – on the edge of it (next to it) is Blekinge and the highlands of Småland terrace cown {sic} this way giving the direction of the watercourses of Kronoberg. Kronoberg is like Minnesota on having numerous lakes. It is unlike Minnesota in having many small rivers from lake to lake with rapid clear water flow. On the two shores of one of these streams in Älmeboda in the direction of Blekinge from Kållebo was a plot of ground for sale. Gustaf Collin' bought this land. Across the stream he rolled big boulders and by dint of hard labor he perfected a dam. It was very hard work for a little man. He injured himself and lost some time. Also not long after the dam he suffered "Vatten Sot" his only sickness ever to require any care. On the east shore he built a gristmill, and to the mill he opened up a road. This road is now part of the "Rikets Land väg" from Växjö to Karlskrona. This place is called Kållesträm.

The writer visited Kållesträm in 1929 and lay on the bank munching a sandwich, watching the water flow by. It was not a large river – not as wide as the St. Croix, but more so than the Marine Mill brook. It was somewhat of the order of Sunrise River. He tried to envision the forty-five year old Gustaf Collin' stamping around. There was a man about that age nosing around. He was the present owner. He'd never heard of Collin' and wasn't interested. He did not have the round head of a Goth. He may have been intelligent, but there was no poetry in his soul. The man before him – probably not his father – had added steam power and saws for logs. There were small lumber piles about but not much grist. It was a going concern, however, and grist may have been out of season. The saws did not spin that day, but there were men around occupied with this and that. An old soul on the place with a twinkle in his eye – very definitely of the old Wärend stock- was willing to talk. He remembered hearing about Collin' when he was a child. He said Collin' was a "good man". Why should a man remember Collin' seventy-five years after he left the place as a "good man"? He must have been not merely a good man but a positive force in the community.

To this mill – following 1846 – came farmers with their bags of rye, both "torpare" and "hemans ägare" (*meaning both the cottagers/crofters and farm owners. Milan Bloom*). The girls helped in the mill, and many a handful of grain went into the Miller's bin after Anna had taken due toll. The charming smiles of beautiful Anna were good for business, and lovely Caroline (Lina) also when the mill was completed. When the mill opened, these girls were respectively fifteen and twelve.

The mill naturally was a sort of center like the country store in old Minnesota. People came, and people talked. And maybe an occasional one had traveled or talked to one who had traveled. The talk was apt to bring in "Americe". America was a wonderful land – far away – and marvelous. Glowing tales traveled about. Our grandmother who came from up in Uppvidinge Härad relates this one: In America they make fences of "isterband" (link sausage). Also in America (one wag had it) roast pigs run around wild and when you are hungry you catch one and take out your knife and cut a slice.

Gustaf got the America fever. In this he was abetted by a Rev. friend (Newman or Ljunquist?) who said it's God's will that he go to look after the spiritual welfare of the Swedes who began to flock to that heathen country! Gustaf would go. "No!" cried Anna. Anna had fallen in love with a lieutenant and planned their banns and those intricate old world formalities that go with engagements. Nevertheless, Collin' did sell his Kållesträm. The family was all upset. One may well imagine that all three older girls and the mother would rather not venture into a world about which terrifying things had also been said as well as the glowing fairy tales referred to above. The family storm was too much, and Father Gustaf took shelter in a piece of foods (goods, Sw. real estate) called Estarmåla.

(Anton continues) The Move to America

"Hemmansägare" (which means *Homesteader* but most likely Anton meant "Hemmans ägare" which means *Farm owner* – Milan) Gustaf Collin' was not as happy on Estamåla (see "I" on map above). No longer had he a mill to tinker with. There was still a longing for adventure in America. Kristina, Anna, Carolina and possibly Johanna were apprehensive. There was a strained atmosphere. There is no suggestion that the mother of Gustaf was still alive; she would have been about seventy. The brother and sisters were likely neutral or inclined to be with Anna. The youngest sister was undoubtedly for Gustaf going – ultimately she followed him there. He was restless. He prayed for guidance. One day a stranger

came unexpectedly to his door and offered him a good price for Estamåla. This was God's answer to his prayer. He sold Estamåla. From then on he was convinced that it was God's will that he go to America. He was meant to go to America to guide restless young Swedes who were migrating to this unknown wilderness. A high duty definitely assigned to him – "ett kall" [*a calling – Milan Bloom*.]. He must comply!

Estamåla was sold to Peter Svensson from Bindarebo the 18 November 1853. There is a record of several sums of money paid – those noted sums up to 2620 *Riks dollar Ret Geld* (45 riks dollars would buy an ox - Milan). There may have been more. A portion was counted out to Anna, so that she could remain behind and marry her lieutenant. Anna could not separate with her family and took broken-hearted leave of her boyfriend. From that day she began to fail. The family boarded a sailing vessel in Göteborg on the first of June 1854. In this group were: Gustaf Collin', 48; Kristina Jaensdotter, 57; Anna, 23; Johanna, 18; Carolina, 20; Maria, 15; and Beata their "Faster" (sister to Gustaf) 35. They must have had good weather for they landed safely and uneventfully in Boston on June 24 – from which they proceeded by rail to Chicago.

In Chicago Anna completely broke down. She died before the end of the month. She was a rather frail and nervous person. Gustaf had relied on her more than any other member of his family, except possibly his wonderful mother. Anna was a young spirited, highly intelligent, strong-willed cultured representative of the "Bonde" class. She had met a crisis and was mortally hurt. At her bedside the family gathered, and Anna expressed her ill will against her suffering father. It was a tragic, emotional moment. When our Great Aunt Johanna spoke of it to the writer, tears flowed down her cheeks and her hand trembled.

On the last day of June the family trekked over land to the Mississippi River (at Moline – this was a steamboat landing in 1853 – the evidence of this on this objective is not clear). They boarded a river steamboat bound for Minnesota. Gustaf learned that the boat crew had made contact with a New Orleans boat in St. Louis. New Orleans was at that time a town in terror over cholera. Everybody there was on edge and apprehensive. Some of this feeling had floated up the river. Collin called a family council. He admonished his women, warned them not to touch water. Beata would have a bath! Whatever the cause might have been, Beata took sick and died in a very short time. She was buried on the east shore of the Mississippi not far from Dubuque. This sorrowful incident is not at all clear. It is generally assumed in the family that she died of cholera. Cholera in the Mississippi Valley has been debated. In this case the time between the onset and death is remarkably brief (unless boats traveled much slower that at presently. supposed). The boat went as far as Stillwater. On arriving the Collin' family was not allowed to land in the village. They were put off on an island in the north end of St. Croix Lake belonging to Lamars. Collin' did some work for Lamars before he later proceeded to "Svedlek".

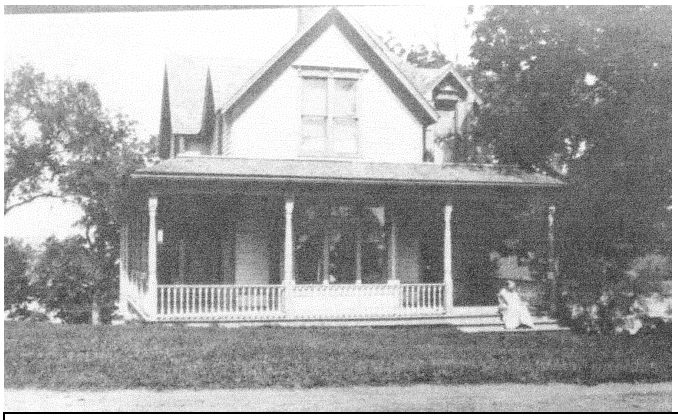
(Anton Continues) Gustaf Bloom Appears

A young settler – 31 years old – from the woods north of Marine ambled into the village the day after the boat arrived from St. Louis with its freight, the mail, and a family of Swedish emigrants. He learned the sad story of the "greenhorns". He himself a Swedish emigrant, but a year ago knew well the lonely heart of a weary traveler in a pioneer community, and here was a man with women folks to boot. They had been dropped on the outside, unwanted. He bought some bacon and potatoes and other things hungry people might like, borrowed a boat and rowed out to the lonesome island. What he saw was good for sore-eyes! Carolina – all dolled up in real Swedish garments – was the most wonderful vision he had ever beheld! He had seen lovely creatures back home in Kunga Härad – but none like this! It was violent love at first sight!

When Gustaf Collin had done the work for Lamars, he moved up to the Svedlek community. He bought a piece of land on the shore of Chisago Lake called "Klövet". He was not here many years. He made a deal with a Swede by the name of Trulson who had bought a forty acre (or was it eighty acres? - Milan) from the government. This land bordered half the shore of a glacier pothole lake (Collins' Lake). Some one hundred feet east of the shore on a knoll he built a cottage in Småland style. The road from Center City to Franconia passes very near this site, and the lake almost touches the road. To a lad of ten this was a very wonderful place. It was not like other houses he had seen. The inside was not painted but polished raw wood. The furniture looked like the woodwork of the walls. It smelled fragrant of herbs and one was like being in church. In the early nineties – shortly after Collin' ... den gode trogne tjänaren Gången ..." it was demolished to make room for some more corn. Its contents were scattered, and some of its interesting

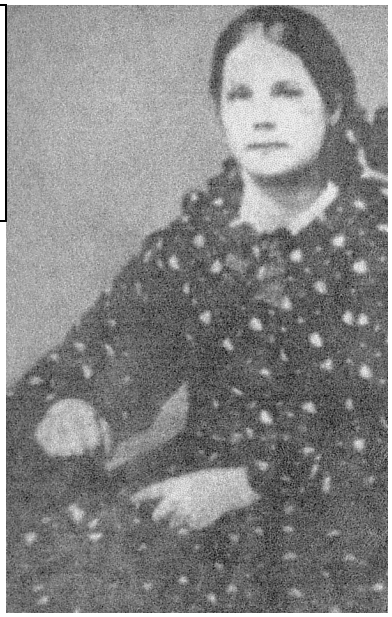
papers destroyed. The whole old setting before the corn crowded it out is a hazy dream – a rather pleasant sort of memory.

The young pioneer who rowed a boat to Lamars Island must not be left out. He was aware of Gustaf's move from Lamars to Klövet. He was there when he had things to tend to on his clearing. He talked volubly to Hanna (Johanna) telling her what a wonderful fellow he was and what grand plans he had as he glanced sheepishly at Carolina who paid little attention to him. He was still a Swede and had little of the American ways. The Swede of his youth did not court his lady love. He sent an intermediary – the "böneman". Hannah talked about the prospects of Gustaf Bloom and urged her sister to pay some attention to him. "Lina" was not at all interested. After a noonday meal when young Bloom had been their guest – all dressed in his very best – Hannah (Johanna) teased and pleaded with Lina for this her new-found hero. She enumerated his many nice points including a well – brushed coat. Carolina impatiently sputtered, "... his shirt underneath his fine coat is filthy!" In the course of some eighteen months Carolina gave way to the pressure of her family. On her wedding morn she threw herself across the bed and sobbed, and Johanna could not console her. Hanna, chatting with her sister years after this, asked her if she regretted the day. She did not. Gustaf was a good man, kind and capable. From this and that and the other – and that Johanna should put the question – it is definitely our impression that Carolina was not demonstrative. She was the businesswoman of this settler's home. Constantly at work – very little time for sociability.



Above
Mostor På Trappen – translation:
Mostor = maternal aunt På = on Trappen = stairs
In other words, Gustaf Collin's daughter, Maria, on the porch steps

Johanna Collin Pehrsson
Born Nov 20, 1836
Died after 1916, She was blind at death as was her mother. Also, there are two of Alfred's Grandchildren who have become blind. Go figure.



Conditions were hard. These girls came from an old settled community with its culture and traditions and severe social rules and forms and nice things. They had wit and refinement and were sensitive. There they had had little time for play and recreation. Here they were in the wild woods far from neighbors, and the neighbors were rough – by force of circumstances – grubby. Rooting in order to eat! Whatever they had had of the finer thing of life were a memory of the past and a hope for the future. When potatoes were to be planted, roots caught the hoe. Men had to grub out stubborn stumps for the women to have a garden. Deer and rabbit had to be some of their fare as well as fish. Flax had to be sown to replace worn out garments. The first ten years existence meant toil, grimy and cruel. But there was a future that seemed bright. Their holdings grew and improved with the extension of clearings. With passing years constant exertion became less imperative. There was song in the air and a deep kindliness for every human being, including the Indian. (Indians were not included in all Minnesota communities.) There was real brotherly love and honest relations. Gustaf adored his "Lina" (Carolina). When he spoke of her, his face shone. To hear him talk, you would think of her as a very marvelous woman.

Carolina brought into this pioneer home thirteen children – one of whom died in infancy – and with the last one she passed away – on the first of March, 1878, at the age of forty-three years and five months.

Johanna, the third daughter of Gustaf and Kristina (they named her Johanna but most called her "Hannah"), was born the twentieth of November, 1836. Somewhere after coming to America she met a widower (Olaf Pehrsson), a carpenter by trade, who had established himself in Chicago. He owned a home on the outskirts of the city. The noisy town grew and engulfed his home. When last seen the little old house was towered over by tall buildings. In it presided the Joanna's daughter - vivacious Anna. Johanna had by this time become very frail and almost blind. She spoke in a quiet, quivering voice like her father Gustaf Collin. She was approaching her eightieth year. Per was well past eighty – maybe nearing ninety – and infantile due to senile dementia. His mother was blind as was also a cousin.

The date of Johanna's marriage is not at hand. Ola had a boy and a girl. They were well into their teens. Johanna and Pehr had two sons born before 1871, and they could run around by themselves, three and five – maybe more. That was the year Mrs. O'Leary's cow set fire to Chicago. Johanna fled with her two sons and stepson, August. The ways soon became crowded and confused, and August was a real help to his stepmother and his brothers. The girl was out of the picture, so we infer that she was old enough by then to be independent. They were herded into a church on the prairie not so far from the city. Johanna's son, Gustaf, died in this church. As soon as she could manage (Ola was not with the family – which may have something to do with it), she found her way to her sister on the Bloom farm in Minnesota. There, her other son, Willie, died. August was taken over by his sister.

Johanna's daughter Anna Christine Peterson (Pehrsson) was born on Gustaf and Carolina's homestead in 1871. They stayed there until Olaf had rebuilt their house in Chicago. Their house had burned down in the great Chicago fire of 1871. When it was rebuilt, Johanna's family returned to Chicago. At the Bloom place now were: Gustaf, 48 years; Carolina, 37; Johanna, 35; Carl Johan, 14; Kristina, 13; Willie, 11; Alfred, 10; August, 7; Anna Bloom, 5; David, 3; Emma, 2; and Frank Bloom, some months, and Anna Peterson, the newborn baby. Where they kept them all in that little house is an enigma.

Anna grew up to be a cheerful soul. Anna and David became very good friends. (*Note: I (Milan) have every reason to believe that this is the cousin Anna who was also Joe Bloom's favorite cousin. In fact when Joe died, between 1:00 and 1:30 am July 14, 1944, he uttered with his last breath "Cuz Anna" and then he died. Milan Bloom)*. They seemed more like brother and sister than like cousins. She was a beautiful girl and had more physical strength than her mother. Her features were those of her mother's family and not Pehrsson's. Unfortunately she developed a pathological condition that increased here weight inordinately. Her face remained pretty but did not fit with her large body. She had a high soprano voice that she trained and used to sing solos in Chicago churches. Her songs in public were exclusively religious and patriotic, but at home she would sit at the piano and sing both rollicking and sad Swedish folk songs. She grew up in the Rock Island Railroad passenger department and attained a responsible position. She was married to Albert Berg, a half brother to our Aunts Ida and Helen Bloom. This was the result of an infatuation. The union was not happy and they divorced in 1897. Albert remarried in 1899 but Anna never did. Her father Olaf, mother Johanna and Anna herself died within a few years of one another. A letter was received from Anna in December of 1916, and her mother was then alive.

Anna Christine Peterson (Pehrsson) about 1914. Favorite cousin of David and Joseph..

The youngest of the Collin' girls, Maria seemed to the writer to be the sturdiest and most pious. She was not stupid and may have had charms in her youth. She was born the sixth of June in 1839. She married Eskil Trulson (b. July 1829; d. Oct, 1875).

Maria had a daughter named Hilda who married a farmer, Charles Håkanson. They lived near the Collins' and developed a well and arranged a well stocked farm and raised many children. It was Håkanson who wrecked the Collin' house to make room for corn. Economically, it must have been a good move. Håkanson was a good farmer, but all those letters and manuscripts need not have been lost.

Gustaf Collin' did not have a pretentious library. The books were mostly religious. Of other books, the writer has seen a work on medicine in Danish and a chronology. He took only a few periodicals – the writer knows of only two. He repaired his old worn books and bound his periodicals and almanacs. Among the manuscripts preserved is a sermon – a letter to Alfred Bloom on the occasion of his confirmation – kindly translated and circulated by Rev. Wenzel Bloom. There is also a notebook on medicine by his father. An attempt will be made to compile a list of these matters.

In the fall of 1863 Gustaf Collin' again took to himself a wife. He was then fifty-seven years old. This woman was the widow Elizabeth Liljeblad. She was born somewhere in Småland, the twenty-sixth of May in 1813, and hence was seven years younger than Gustaf. She died the twenty-seventh of April in 1900. After the death of Gustaf, she moved to some kinfolks and moved out of the Bloom family contact. To the writer she is but a fleeting speck of memory. To the child she was not friendly. She was a black object in the still Collin' house. She never was mentioned in any conversation the writer heard. She was "Mormor" to the Gustaf Bloom's children for thirty-seven years. She may have been to them a fond and kindly soul, but to their children she is a void.

In the spring of 1889 Alfred Bloom came to the village where the Roses lived, and the writer ran to meet him. Any Bloom was an exciting and welcome guest. This Bloom, usually smiling, now looked serious and in a low voice announced that "Morfar" was dead. The writer (meaning Anton – Milan Bloom) rushed into the house and blabbed it to his mother. The death of this very old man did not seem so significant a matter. It was news but not awful news like the death of Willie Bloom two years before. He was stunned to note the shock it was to his mother. She was aghast and sat down – almost fell down into a chair. The whole family felt it as a keen personal loss. To the whole of the Svedlek community even though by now an almost entirely new generation, it was a sad day. A highly valued councilor lay silenced – the friend of their fathers. He was found in the shallow waters of his lake, face down, at 4:30 p.m., the second of May, 1889.

Gustaf Collin lies buried in the "*Svedlek kyrkogård*" (Chisago Lakes Lutheran cemetery) amongst the Swedish pioneers whose welfare he had at heart. On the marker of his grave we read, "***Väl den gode och trogne tjänare gången in i din Herres glädje***".

End of Anton's Writings

Old barn near Brunsmåla.
Unpainted the way the were in the 18th and early 19th century. Was it there when the Collins were there? Look for it.

A Rather Unusual Real Estate Deal
(Or so it would seem to our 21st century ideas)

This "deal" was called an *Undantag* in Sweden (note county clerk's original spelling)

Gustaf Collin and Wife, Parties of the First Part
Gustaf Bloom and Wife, Parties of the Second Part

This Indenture, made the twelfth day of March in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-Three, wherein Gustaf Collin and Elizabeth Collin his wife of Chisago County and the State of Minnesota, parties of the First Part and Gustaf Bloom of Chisago County and the State of Minnesota parties of the Second Part, witnesseth, that the said parties of the First Part for and in consideration of the sum of eleven hundred dollars to them in hand paid and of the conditions and covenants herein after set forth to be done and performed by the said party of the Second Part; the said party of the First Part have sold, bargained, granted to the said party of the Second Part his heirs and afsigns forever all those certain tracts of parcels of land, situated, lying and being in the County of Chisago and State of Minnesota, described as follows, to-wit: Lot one (1) Lot two (2) East part of Lot Three (3) and the East part of Lot Eight (8) in Section Seven (7) and Lot One (1) in Section Eighteen (18) all in Township Thirty-Three (33), Range Nineteen (19) containing in all one hundred nine and 95/100 acres for further description reference is made to the record in the Office of Register of Deeds of Chisago County together with all and singular the tenements, hereditament and appurtenances hereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, and also all the estate, right, title, interest, possession, claim or demand as well in law as in equity of the said parties of the First Part of in or to the above described premises, together with all the appurtenances, unto the said party of the Second Part, his heirs and afsigns forever. Provided always, and these present are made upon this express condition, that the said part of the Second Part, shall well and truly keep the covenants hereinafter set forth, and the said parties of the Second Part, for himself _____ administrators or afsigns, in condition of the premises does by these presents convenant and agrees to and with the said parties of the First Part:

1st To deliver annually good hay at the place of residence of the parties of the First Part, sufficient for keeping one cow and two sheeps (sic) over winter.

2nd Pasture and stable for one cow and two sheeps (sic) is to be furnished by the party of the Second Part at his place of residence.
3rd Two rooms and cellar are to be kept in good repair, the rooms warm and comfortable at the present residence of the party of the Second Part for the use of the parties of the First Part.

4th Wood hauled to the residence of the parties of the First Part as much as said parties want for use to keep their rooms warm.
5th Two apple trees in the garden to be selected by both the parties of the First and Second Part.

6th To furnish horses and wagon or sleds for going to church Sunday whenever the parties of the First Part call for the same. Document Page 1 x 2

7th One acre of cultivated land in the field and garden plowed yearly at the present residence of the party of the Second Part.

All of the above convenant is to be done and performed by the party of the Second Part for each and every year during the lifetime of the parties of the First Part or any of them surviving the other. And provided further and these presents are made upon these express (sic) conditions, that if default be made in any of the convenants and agreements hereuntofore set forth to be done and performed by the said party of the Second Part, his heirs, executors, administrators or afsigns then and at all times thereafter it shall be lawful for the said party of the First Part, his heirs or afsigns into the above conveyed premises or any part thereof in the name of the whole to reenter and repossess, and the same to enjoy again as of their former estate. Anything herein contained to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding. In testimony whereof, the parties of these present have hereunto interchangeable set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in presence of
Gas. (sic) J. Lindstrom
Andrew Wallmark

Gustaf Collin (Seal)
Elizabeth Collin (Seal)
Gustaf X (his mark) Bloom (Seal)
Carolina C. Bloom (Seal)

State of Minnesota: Be it known, that on this 12th day of March A.D. 1873 personally appeared before me Gustaf Collin County of Chisago and Elizabeth Collin his wife and Gustaf Bloom and Carolina Bloom his wife, to me known to be the parties subscribed their names to the above instrument of writing and severally acknowledged that they executed the same freely and voluntarily for the use and purposes therein expressed.

Andrew Hallmark
Register of Deeds Document Page 2 x 2

Note: $1,100 in 1873 is the same as $19,690 in 2008 (Comment added Milan Bloom).

Gustaf Collin's bible held by Milan Bloom

My contact in Sweden (Ms Bodil Stefansson) says that the way the lady is posed would indicate that this is her wedding day. That being said, Bodil is not convinced that the man is Gustaf Collin. See her thinking on the next page.

From Bodil Stefansson e-mail one:

I have seen photos of Swedish women in pictures from USA taken more than 100 years ago. To show that they had style, the pose in front of the camera was with the upper side of one hand on the lower lumbar spine and the other one below the chest with the little finger aiming towards the palm of the hand. I did this in front of the mirror and ended up with a hand looking like Kristina's with seemingly only four fingers. If this is the explanation, it shows that she knew how to pose.

Bodil continues in e-mail two:

An old photo - must be a "tin-photo" as we call it. Look at Collin, here he is a young man between 20 and 30. This means the photo was taken in Sweden. The woman must be his first wife. (Can't be his bride because they were married before photography was available. Comment added – Milan Bloom). They are very well dressed. Let me guess that this is their engagement or wedding picture. It looks as if Kristina is exposing her left hand. Isn't there a ring on her ring finger? Her right hand looks strange - as if she was missing a finger; did she have a handicap or is it just a coincident and a strange angle?

Assume this was her wedding dress. These are still saved for generations in Sweden. In the 1830s among other things the woman received a pair of gloves from the man she was engaged to. These were often carefully kept and passed over to the next generation.

So it is very likely that this dress was a dress to look good in. Swedes in the US often borrowed clothes to be able to look good when they had their photo taken. They wished to show those back home that they had made it over there. So I think that the Collin daughters borrowed that dress while having their photos taken. We also asked ourselves: is this really Gustav Collin? Compare his hair; the parting of the hair is on the other side compared with the later photos of him. The "tin plates" were like negatives - they were like looking in a mirror. Through a chemical process a copy could be produced on a paper, showing the correct perspective, but this looks like metal plate. So it all fits.

So I (Milan Bloom) offer the following comments:

The picture can't be of Gustaf and his first wife Kristina in 1830 when they were married because to the best of my knowledge there were no cameras at that time (Bodil agrees) and his bride was older than the image suggests since his bride was 33 when married. Also, the picture wasn't taken on the day of Gustaf Blom and Carolina Collin's wedding day because Gustaf Collin was already 50 years old by then and the man is much younger than 50. So who is it? Could it be Gustaf's nephew who came to America in later years.

A reverse tin type negative could explain why the part in the hair appears on the wrong side.

- **1. Mr. Carl Johann BLOOM (b.1857-Center City,Township 33,Section 7,Lot 7,8 MN;d.1929)**
  - sp: Ms Helena Catharina JONASON (b.1866;d.1953)
  - 2. Mr. Paul Anton BLOOM (b.1886-Center City,MN;d.1960-Lindstrom,MN)
    - sp: Ms Lola Charlotte STROMGREN (b.1881-Center City,MN;m.1913;d.1979-St. Croix Falls,WI)
    - 3. Mr. Ralph Calvin BLOOM (b.1925-;d.Center City,MN;d.1964-Victory Hospital,Stanley,WI)
      - sp: Ms Ardis Marie PIERSON (b.1927-Shafer,Minnesota;m.1946)
      - 4. Mr. Thomas Michael BLOOM (b.1947-New Ulm,Minnesota)
        - sp: Ms Mary Michelle RAFFERTY
        - sp: Ms Marilyn WESTBERG (b.1942-Center City,Minnesota;m.1974(Div))
          - 5. Mr. Christopher James BLOOM
          - 5. Ms Jeanette Lynn BLOOM
            - sp: Mr. Matt BOBICK
              - 6. Ms Kayla
              - 6. Ms Hannah
          - 5. Ms Erin Marie BLOOM (b.1978)
            - sp: Mr. Jeff LANHART (m.2003)
        - sp: Ms Mary (b.1962)
      - 4. Mr. Douglas Randal BLOOM (b.1950-Granite Falls,Minnesota)
        - sp: Ms Vickie Ann HOLM (b.1953;m.1979)
          - 5. Ms Chelsea Nicole BLOOM (b.1982-Missoula,Montana)
          - 5. Ms Amanda Shelby BLOOM (b.1985-Missoula,Montana)
          - 5. Ms Kari Marie BLOOM (b.1986-Missoula,Montana)
      - 4. Ms Wendy Marie BLOOM (b.1954)
        - sp: Mr. James L. RUNESTRAND (b.1949;m.(Div))
          - 5. Mr. Brett Alexander RUNESTRAND (b.1977-River Falls,Wisconsin)
            - sp: UNKNOWN
              - 6. Alexander RUNESTRAND (b.1997-Saint Paul,Minnesota)
        - sp: Mr. Christopher AUSTIN (b.1954;m.1983)
          - 5. Ms Lydia Claire AUSTIN (b.1987-Minneapolis,Minnesota)
          - 5. Ms Lucy Jane AUSTIN (b.1989-Minneapolis,Minnesota)
          - 5. Ms Madeline McRae AUSTIN (b.1991-Minneapolis,Minnesota)
          - 5. Ms Gwendolen Ann AUSTIN (b.1992-Minneapolis,Minnesota)
      - 4. Ms Nancy Yvonne BLOOM (b.1957-Granite Falls,Minnesota)
        - sp: Mr. Michael William MILLER (b.1954)
          - 5. Mr. Benjamin John MILLER (b.1979-River Falls,Wisconsin)
          - 5. M r Cameron Michael MILLER (b.1982-River Falls,Wisconsin)
          - 5. Ms Addison Elizabeth MILLER (b.1987-River Falls,Wisconsin)
      - 4. Ms Kathleen Ann BLOOM (b.1958-Granite Falls,Minnesota)
        - sp: Mr. Kenneth KOLBERG (b.1958)
        - sp: Mr. Alan BERNARD (b.1966)
          - 5. Ms LilyAnne Isabella BERNARD (b.2000-Minneapolis,Minnesota)
    - 3. Ms Ethel Pauline BLOOM (b.1927-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Richard William TRESTRAIL (b.1927-Minneapolis,MN;m.1947)
      - 4. Ms Candace Lynn TRESTRAIL (b.1948-Minneapolis,MN)
        - sp: Mr. Robert MAFFEI (b.1948-Cleveland,OH;m.1971)
          - 5. Ms Tessa Christine MAFFEI (b.1975-Quincy,MA)
          - 5. Ms Alissa Lynn MAFFEI (b.1977-Winfield,IL)
      - 4. Mr. William Mark TRESTRAIL (b.1951-Minneapolis,MN)
        - sp: Ms Sandra Louise HALL (b.1947-Milwaukee,WI;m.1974)

- 5, Mr. Dwayne Stewart TRESTRAIL (b.1969-){AMilwaukee,WI)
  - sp: Ms Donna CARMIGNANI (b.1969-Milwaukee,WI;m.1995)
    - 6. Ms Amilia Ann TRESTRAIL (b.1997-Chicago,IL)
    - 6. Ms Grace Lauren TRESTRAIL (b.2002-Chicago,IL)

2, Mr. William L BLOOM (b.1888;d.1958-Center City,MN)
- sp: Ms Anna SANDBERG (b.1892;m.1912;d.1963)
  - 3, Mr. Donald R. BLOOM (b.1912;d.1975)
    - sp: Ms Violet THOMPSON
      - 4, Mr. James BLOOM
        - sp: Ms Julianne BORDING
          - 5. Mr. Robert Allen BLOOM
          - 5. Mr. Christopher James BLOOM
          - 5. Mr. Joey Michael BLOOM
      - 4. Mr. Charles BLOOM
      - 4, Ms Bonnie BLOOM
        - sp: Mr. Charles MOON
          - 5. Ms Crystal MOON
          - 5. Ms Heather MOON
  - 3, Mr. Byron W. BLOOM (b.1913-Shafer;d.1964-Bethesda Hospital)
    - sp: Ms Muriel NELSON (b.1911-Paldake;m.1931)
      - 4, Mr. Byron W. BLOOM Jr. (b.1932-Madison Lake,MN)
        - sp: Ms Kathleen CASSIDY (b.1935-St. Paul,MN;m.1956)
          - 5, Ms Susan BLOOM (b.1962-St. Paul,MN)
            - sp: Mr. Todd BRADSHAW (b.1963-St. Paul,MN;m.1986)
              - 6, Mr. Trevor BRADSHAW (b.1995-St. Paul,MN)
                - sp: UNKNOWN
              - 6. Jessie BRADSHAW (b.2000-St. Paul,MN)
          - 5, Mr. Robert C. BLOOM (b.1965-St. Paul,MN)
            - sp: Ms Anne Marie ARKO (m.1992)
              - 6. Mr. Robert G. BLOOM (b.1996)
              - 6. Ms Weatrice M. BLOOM (b.1998)
              - 6. Erick John BLOOM (b.2002)
      - 4, Dr. Duane BLOOM (b.1933-Shafer,MN;d.2009-Golden,Colorado)
        - sp: Ms Betty MAACK (b.1933-St. Paul,MN;m.1956)
          - 5, Mr. Daniel Maack BLOOM (b.1959-St. Paul,MN)
            - sp: Ms Carla BARELLA (m.1994)
              - 6. Mr. Daniel Duane BLOOM (b.1995)
          - 5, Ms Beth Louise BLOOM (b.1960-Denver,CO)
            - sp: Mr. Scott BUGOSH (b.1959;m.1980)
              - 6. Ms Ariel Teresa BUGOSH (b.1985-Wheatridge. Co)
              - 6. Mr. Michael David BUGOSH (b.1988-Bakersfield,CA)
              - 6. Ms. AnnaMarie Grace BUGOSH (b.2000-Houston,TX)
          - 5, Mr. David BLOOM (b.1965-Wheatridge. Co)
            - sp: Miss Dawn ANDERSON
              - 6. Mr. Leo J. ANDERSON (b.2009)
          - 5, Mr. Nelson Robert BLOOM (b.1969-Wheatridge. Co)
            - sp: Ms Paula BALLINGER (m.1993(Div))
              - 6. Mr. Bryce Nelson BLOOM (b.1999-St. Paul,MN)
      - 4. Mr. James Wendell BLOOM (b.1938-At home Van Buren Str;d.1939-St. Paul,MN)
      - 4, Dr. William L BLOOM (b.1940-Bismark,ND)
        - sp: Ms Carol FRENCH (b.1941-Bethesda Hospital,St. Paul,MN;m.1963)

- 3, Ms Helen BLOOM (b.1915-Shafer,MN;d.1991-Chisago,City,MN)
  - sp: Mr. Gerhard PARK (b.1910-St. Paul,Mn;m.1937;d.2001-Amery,WI)
    - 4, Ms Anita PARK (b.1938-St. Paul,MN)
      - sp: Dr. James JACOBSON (b.1934-Chippewa Falls,Wi;m.1958)
        - 5, Ms Ann JACOBSON (b.1959-Duluth,MN)
          - sp: Mr. Christopher WEGGEMANN (b.1961-St. Louis,MO;m.1982)
            - 6. Ms Christin Ann WEGGEMAN (b.1982-St. Louis,MO)
            - 6. Ms Mallory WEGGEMANN (b.1989-Lawrence,KS)
            - 6, Ms Jessica WEGGEMANN (b.1985-Lawrence,KS)
              - sp: UNKNOWN
        - 5, Ms Karen JACOBSEN (b.1961-DeSmet,South Dakato)
          - sp: Mr. Michael O'MEARA (m.1990)
            - 6. Ms Madeline O'MEARA (b.1995-St. Paul,MN)
            - 6. Mr. Daniel O'MEARA (b.1999-St. Paul,MN)
            - 6. Mr. Benjamin O'MEARA (b.1999)
        - 5, Mr. Peter JACOBSON (b.1964-Belleville,IL)
          - sp: Ms Kathryn BANGHART
            - 6. Mr. Nicholas JACOBSON (b.2000-Silver City,NM)
    - 4, Ms Judith H. PARK (b.1940-St. Paul,Mn)
      - sp: Mr. Edward BOUDREAU (b.1937-Marshall,MN;m.1963(Div);d.2007-North St. Paul)
        - 5. Mr. Daniel BOUDREAU (b.1964-St. Paul,Mn)
        - 5, Mr. David BOUDREAU (b.1966-St. Paul,Mn;d.1999-St. Paul,Mn)
          - sp: Ms Arica COX (m.1998)
            - 6. Mr. Lane Edward BOUDREAU (b.1995-St. Paul,Mn)
            - 6. Mr. Seth Fredrick BOUDREAU (b.1999-St. Paul,Mn)
        - 5, Ms Michelle Marie BOUDREAU (b.1968-St. Paul,Mn;d.2008-Scandia,Minnesota)
          - sp: Mr. Larry BROWN (m.1993)
            - 6. Mr. Connor Thomas BROWN (b.1999-St. Paul,Mn)
            - 6. Mr. Dylan Joseph BROWN (b.1997-St. Paul,Mn)
            - 6. Ms Megan BROWN (b.2003)
            - 6. Ms Erin BROWN (b.2003)
        - 5, Mr. William Carl BOUDREAU (b.1970-St. Paul,Mn)
          - sp: Ms Laura MORRIS (m.1996)
            - 6. Mr. Evan William BOUDREAU (b.1999-St. Paul,Mn)
            - 6. Ms Brynn Michelle BOUDREAU (b.2001-St. Paul,Mn)
            - 6. Ms Avery Jean BOUDREAU (b.2001-St. Paul,Mn)
- 3, Ms Ruth BLOOM (b.1916-Taylors Falls,MN;d.1997-Chisago City)
  - sp: Mr. Zane VAN AUKEN (b.1918-Coeur DAlene,Idaho;m.1940;d.1999-Minneapolis,MN)
    - 4, Ms Karen VAN AUKEN (b.1943-Omak,WA)
      - sp: Mr. Harold TEASDALE (b.1943-La Crosse,WI;m.1965(Div))
        - 5, Mr. Aaron TEASDALE (b.1971-Minneapolis,MN)
          - sp: Ms Jacquelin RUBINO (m.2000)
            - 6. Mr. Silas TEASDALE (b.1999-Fort Collins,CO)
            - 6. Mr. Johan TEASDALE (b.2003)
    - 4, Mr. Michael VAN AUKEN (b.1945-St. Paul,Mn)
      - sp: Ms Inghild NØRSTEBØ (b.1945-Lesjaverk,Norway;m.1968)
        - 5, Ms Kari VAN AUKEN (b.1970-Viroqua,WI)
          - sp: Mr. Charles STERN (m.1996)
            - 6. Ms Sofia STERN (b.2000-St. Louis Park,MN)
        - 5, Mr. Paul VAN AUKEN (b.1973-Mason City,IA)
          - sp: Ms Courtney Lynn DAMMAN (b.1978;m.2004)

- 6. Ms Tizu VAN AUKEN (b.2007)
- 4, Ms Rebecca VAN AUKEN (b.1950-Winona,MN)
  - sp: Mr. William REIF (b.1948-Waukegan,IL;m.1975)
    - 5. Ms Laura REIF (b.1985-Iowa City,IA)
- 3, Ms Grace BLOOM (b.1918-Taylors Falls;d.2000-South Bend,IN)
  - sp: Mr. Marsten John TARBOX SR (b.1921-Ashland,WI;m.1947;d.2006)
    - 4, Mr. John David TARBOX JR (b.1948-Atlanta,GA)
      - sp: Ms Joyce Marie CHASE (b.1954-South Bend,IN;m.1976)
        - 5. Ms Natasha Lynn TARBOX (b.1977-Indianapolis,IN)
        - 5. Ms Jennifer Anne TARBOX (b.1980-Indianapolis,IN)
        - 5. Mr. John Warren TARBOX (b.1982-Indianapolis,IN)
        - 5. Ms Mary Katherine TARBOX (b.1996-Indianapolis,IN)
    - 4. Mr. Richard Paul TARBOX (b.1952-Austin,MN)
- 3. Mr. Ralph E. BLOOM (b.1920;d.1966)
- 3. Mr. Robert C. BLOOM (b.1922;d.1949)
- 3, Ms Lillian C. BLOOM (b.1924-Taylors Falls,MN)
  - sp: Mr. C. Leslie JOHNSON (b.1925-Shafer,MN;m.1945)
    - 4. Mr. Gregory JOHNSON (b.1947-Minneapolis,MN;d.2008)
    - 4, Mr. Steven JOHNSON (b.1948-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Ms Jeraldin BUSSERT (b.1947;m.1970)
        - 5, Ms Karina JOHNSON (b.1974)
          - sp: Mr. Mike ROTH (b.1974)
            - 6. Mr. Noah ROTH (b.1998)
            - 6. Ms Amelia ROTH (b.2000)
            - 6. Ms Greta ROTH (b.2003)
        - 5. Ms Marta JOHNSON (b.1976)
        - 5, Mr. Eli JOHNSON (b.1978)
          - sp: Ms Jennifier FRANCOMB (b.1981;m.2006)
    - 4, The Reverend Daniel JOHNSON (b.1950-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Ms Susan VAN DYKE (b.1952;m.1975)
        - 5, Mr. Conor Andrew JOHNSON (b.1980)
          - sp: Ms Susannah BAGANS (b.1982;m.2005)
            - 6. Ms Arabella Grace JOHNSON (b.2010-Tucson Medical Center,Tucson,Arizona)
        - 5, Ms. Kersta JOHNSON (b.1983)
          - sp: Mr. Patrick John BOHRMAN (b.1983)
        - 5. Mr. Collin David JOHNSON (b.1989-Tucson,AZ)
    - 4, Ms Susan JOHNSON (b.1953-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Stewart CAMERON (m.(Div))
        - 5. Ms Laurel CAMERON (b.1976)
        - 5, Ms Sarah CAMERON (b.1978)
          - sp: Mr. James MCCABE (b.1978)
            - 6. Ms Miriam Laurel MCCABE (b.2008)
      - sp: Mr. Jim EWERT
    - 4, Ms Jennifer JOHNSON (b.1959-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Scott MUNGER (b.1955-Minneapolis,MN;m.1978)
        - 5, Ms Rachel MUNGER (b.1983-Minneapolis,MN)
          - sp: Mr. Joel GHEEN (b.1983)
            - 6. Ms Joleen GHEEN (b.1999)
        - 5, Ms. Rebecka MUNGER (b.1986-Philippines)
          - sp: Joe ANDERSON (m.2008)
- 3. Mr. Richard James BLOOM (b.1926)

- sp: Ms Frances PLAGGERMAN (b.1922;m.1953;d.1974)
- sp: Ms Theresa WATERS (b.1933-Winna,Minnesota;m.1976;d.2003-Port Charlotte,Florida)
- sp: Mrs Alice Marie MATHER (b.1938-Mentor,Ohio;m.2005)
- 3. Mr. Wilbur David BLOOM (b.1929;d.2011-Chisago City,Minnesota)

2, Mr. Gustave Elmer BLOOM (b.1889-Franconia,MN;d.1961-Chisago City,MN)
- sp: Ms Eleanor LUNDEEN (b.1895-Chisago City,MN;m.1928;d.1985-Chisago City,MN)
- 3, Mr. John Charles BLOOM (b.1929-Taylors Falls,MN;d.2011-Fallbrook,CA)
  - sp: Ms Arlene HANSEN (b.1930-Brainerd,MN;m.1952;d.2004)
    - 4, Ms Susan Kay BLOOM (b.1956-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Rodney BAAKKONEN (b.1954-Brainerd,MN;m.1980)
    - 4, Ms Marcia Jean BLOOM (b.1959-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Mike BODNAR (b.1958;m.1990)
        - 5. Mr. Maxwell John BODNAR (b.1990-San Diego,CA)
        - 5. Mr. Eric A. BODNAR (b.1993-San Diego,CA)
        - 5. Ms Jessica M. BODNAR (b.1998)
    - 4, Mr. Ronald John BLOOM (b.1964-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Ms Lisa EYLER (b.1970;m.2004)
        - 5. Ms Clara Jeanette BLOOM (b.2006)
  - sp: Ms Marjorie Ann DARLING (b.1935;m.2006)

2, Ms Anna C. BLOOM
- sp: Mr. Chester TVEDT
- 3, Mr. Harold B. TVEDT
  - sp: Ms Marianne AMBERGER
    - 4. Ms Gabrielle TVEDT
    - 4. Mr. Roland TVEDT
- 3, Mr. Neal C. TVEDT
  - sp: Ms Edna MORISON (m.(Div))
    - 4, Ms Sherrie TVEDT
      - sp: Mr. Howard DAVIS
    - 4. Ms Laurie TVEDT
    - 4. Ms Jana TVEDT
    - 4. Mr. Brian Christopher TVEDT
    - 4. Mr. Wayne TVEDT

2. Mr. Reuben BLOOM

2, Ms Edla Helvina BLOOM (b.1896)
- sp: Mr. Arthur WACHOLZ
- 3. Mr. Gerald WACHOLZ
- 3. Ms Doris WACHOLZ
- 3. Miss Corrinne WACHOLZ

2. Ms Adelia BLOOM (b.1898-Center City;d.1979)

2, Mr. Wendell BLOOM (b.1900;d.1955)
- sp: Ms Lucia E. BENSON (b.1903;m.1926;d.1994)
- 3, Ms Patricia Anne BLOOM (b.1931)
  - sp: Mr. Robert PENSHORN (m.1951)
    - 4, Ms Julie Dawn PENSHORN (b.1953)
      - sp: UNKNOWN
        - 5. Mr. Collin PETERSON (b.1988)
    - 4, Ms Sally PENSHORN (b.1955)
      - sp: Mr. William KAYSEN (m.(Div))
        - 5. Mr. Jacob William KAYSEN (b.1977)
        - 5. Mr. Adam KAYSEN (b.1979)

- sp: Mr. Kevin CHAPEAU (m.1996)
- 4, Ms Carrie Sue PENSHORN (b.1958)
  - sp: UNKNOWN
    - 5. Mr. Madisen Penshorn FISCHER (b.1995)
    - 5. Mr. Colton Penshorn FISCHER (b.1996)
- 3, Ms Cherrol Lou BLOOM (b.1932)
  - sp: Dr. Robert SOISETH (m.1957)
    - 4, Mr. Jonathan SOISETH (b.1959)
      - sp: Ms Lisa PERRY
        - 5. Ms Alexandar Ruth SOISETH (b.1981)
    - 4, Ms Kristin Marie SOISETH (b.1961)
      - sp: Mr. Dieter HESSE
        - 5. Mr. William Nathan HESSE (b.1993)
        - 5. Ms Eileen Marie HESSE (b.1994)
    - 4, Mr. Luke Eric SOISETH (b.1963)
      - sp: Ms Jana HOUG (b.1969;m.2004)
        - 5, Ms Olivia Lucia SOISETH (b.2004)
          - sp: UNKNOWN
            - 6. Mr. Benjamin SOISET (b.2006)
        - 5. Mr. Benjamin SOISETH (b.2006)
    - 4, Mr. Daniel Walter SOISETH (b.1968)
      - sp: Ms Tracy VERNA (m.1999)
        - 5. Ms Sophia Hope SOISETH (b.2005)
        - 5. Mr. Cole SOISETH (b.2008)
- 3, Ms Linda Marie BLOOM (b.1942;d.2000)
  - sp: Dr. Paul MONSON (m.(Div))
    - 4, Mr. Peter MONSON (b.1969)
      - sp: Ms Shannon
        - 5. Mr. Ross Michael MONSON (b.2004)
        - 5. Mr. Marcus MONSON (b.2006)
    - 4, Mr. Joshua Paul MONSON (b.1971)
      - sp: Ms Adrienne
        - 5. Jack Joshua MONSON (b.2000)
        - 5. Ms Sydney MONSON
    - 4, Ms Rachel Yang Soon MONSON (b.1973)
      - sp: Mr. Scott Michael HOMUTH
        - 5. Ms Tessa HOMUTH (b.1996)

- 2, Mr. Oliver M. BLOOM (b.1902;d.1987-Ebenzer Nursing Home)
  - sp: Ms Marion SINGER (m.1933)
    - 3, Mr. William BLOOM
      - sp: Ms Aletha SMITH
        - 4, Ms Pamela BLOOM
          - sp: Mr. James KOLLER
            - 5. Bronson KOLLER
        - 4, Ms Karen BLOOM
          - sp: Mr. David POLODIEBECK
            - 5. Nicholas POLODIEBECK (b.1977)
            - 5, Natalie POLODIEBECK (b.1980)
              - sp: James WILMAS
        - 4, Mr. Steve BLOOM
          - sp: Ms Mary

- 5, Brieanna BLOOM (b.1979)
  - sp: UNKNOWN
    - 6. Devin BLOOM (b.1996)
    - 6. Cailah BLOOM (b.2000)
- 5. Brittany BLOOM (b.1982)

4, Mr. Kenneth BLOOM
- sp: Ms Heidi
  - 5. Engrid BLOOM
  - 5. Paul BLOOM

3, Ms Beverly Marion BLOOM (b.1934)
- sp: Mr. Steve WHEATON (b.1957)

4, Ms Sandra WHEATON
- sp: Mr. Mike FRANK
  - 5. Mr. Craig FRANK (b.1985)
  - 5. Ms Katrina FRANK (b.1989)
  - 5. Ms Kathy FRANK (b.1994)

4, Ms Deborah WHEATON
- sp: Mr. Jeff KRONEN (m.1981)
  - 5. Ms Laura KRONEN (b.1983)
  - 5. Mr. Mathew KRONEN (b.1988)

4, Ms Diana WHEATON
- sp: Mr. Jay OLSON
  - 5. Mr. Justin OLSON (b.1986)
  - 5. Ms Kaitlyn OLSON (b.1991)
  - 5. Mr. Conner OLSON (b.1998)

sp: Ms Ruth SHEPHERD

2, Ms Helen Lucile BLOOM (b.1908;d.1995)
- sp: Mr. Arden W. KOELZ (b.1909;m.1935;d.1994)

3, Dr. Thomas A. KOELZ (b.1937)
- sp: Ms Arlene Carol PAULSON (b.1938;m.1960)

4, Ms Amy Lucille KOELZ (b.1961)
- sp: The Reverend Joseph Willis DUININCK (b.1962;m.1986)
  - 5. Mr. Luke Joseph DUININCK (b.1987)
  - 5. Mr. Hans Joseph DUININCK (b.1989)

4, Mr. Peter Thomas KOELZ (b.1963)
- sp: Ms Jean Carolyn WIELINSKI (b.1964;m.1988)
  - 5. Mr. Nicholas Peter KOELZ (b.1991)
  - 5. Ms Mackenzie Caroline KOELZ (b.1994)
  - 5. Mr. Zachary Alexander KOELZ (b.1996)
  - 5. Ms Sadie Grace Koelz KOELZ (b.1999)

4, Ms Sarah Anne KOELZ (b.1965)
- sp: Mr. The Reverend David Thomas KELBY (b.1965;m.1989)
  - 5. Ms Anne Margaret KELBY (b.1993)
  - 5. Ms Emma Louise KELBY (b.1994)

4, Ms Susan Lynne KOELZ (b.1967)
- sp: Mr. Timothy Edward FORD (b.1967;m.1990)
  - 5. Mr. Noah Thomas FORD (b.1996)
  - 5. Ms Hanna Loelz FORD (b.1998)

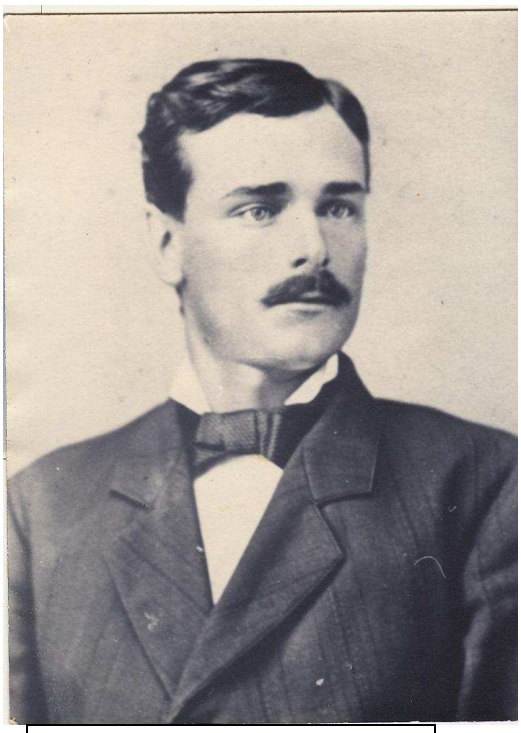
3, Dr. Timothy J. KOELZ
- sp: Ms Linda GMITRE
  - 4. Ms Jennifer KOELZ

4. Ms Stephanie KOELZ
4. Ms Alicia KOELZ

Carl (Charles/Charlie) J. Bloom
This family's Patriarch

Kalle Vantar pa Kalaset
"Kalle is waiting for the party."

5-9-1857 Charles J. Bloom 1-16-1929



Above: Charlie at about 20 years

Charlie was known for his flowers. This picture was taken in 1927.

Written by Lucille Bloom Koelz
2-8-1989 to Pat Bloom Penshorn.

The first thought that comes to my mind about your father's father (Charles Bloom), my father, is the hard, hard work. I think of his humped back (like my brother Elmer's). I think of those stiff leather laced shoes and how uncomfortable they must have been. I can see my mother's hands chapped to the point of bleeding. Charles (who also went by Carl Johan, C. J., Kalle, and Chas) was born in 1857 just four years after his father, Gustaf, arrived in Franconia Township and settled at Bloom Lake (in 1853). Since father was the oldest of twelve children, he had the habits of responsibility and hard work. Mother always said that buying the farm from Grandpa Gustaf at a high price when interest rates were high, meant nothing but interest payments and no principle. I can imagine that my father's prayer every day was "Help me, God, to feed and clothe my ten children." The sandy loam did not produce much grain or corn, but I can remember picking potatoes and putting the bushels on a dray -- the one horse pulling it when it was full -- and then dumping it in the lumber wagon to take to town.

Above is Charlie Bloom's Barn. This barn is located at the intersection of Pleasant Vally Road and Quinlan Road – southeast corner (note: it will seem to many that it is on the **southwest** corner – but since Pleasant Vally Road does not run true north and south it only seems like southwest – Milan Bloom). This barn was first owned by Edward Bloom and, when Edward owned it, it was located near Bloom's Lake on the opposite side of Pleasant Valley Road from where it stands in these pictures. In the old days, Edward was farming what had been his father Gustaf's farm. The barn was eventually moved across Pleasant Vally Road and it became Charlie's barn. The location pictured was the Charlie Bloom farm.

Everyone rejoiced when the crop and the prices were good. Charles, "the man with the hoe," surely had a touch of artistry. He planted roses, English lavender (which the aunts, especially Lillian Berg, Amanda Slattengren and Ida Bloom, picked for sachets), and peonies and had orchards of apples and plums. Charles and Helen were both readers and looked forward to Minnesota Stats Tiding, and another Swedish paper with fictional continued stories that arrived on Thursday. They stayed on top of current events, and men from town would come to visit for the good conversation. I don't know how such weary people could be so consistently bi-lingual. With consistent financial worries, I have often wondered how Charles and Helena (**Helena Catharina Jonason**) suffered through 14-year-old Reuben's accidental death – he died in

arms of his sister, Delia. And I do hope, (but I did not think of it at the time) that they were proud of how, after World War I, Elmer was able to restore the struggling farm and develop a modern, very successful dairy (thanks to those Guernsey cows who gave cream and not milk!). Charles and Helen retired to the little house by the cemetery in Center City around 1927. Here they planted raspberries and strawberries and a big garden and were soon selling again. In 1928-29 I stayed out from Macalester College for a year to try to make a bit of money. Otto Benson (the father of Lucia Bloom, and grandfather of Pat Bloom Penshorn), who was on the telephone board, helped me get a job as a switchboard operator. I stayed with my parents and was glad to be with them that year as Father died in January of 1929. He was seventy-two. He died of cancer of the prostate after three weeks in the hospital. I always thought of them as two brave, brave people.

6-10-*1886 Paul Anton Bloom 2-7-1960*

Front row L. R.: Frank Bloom, Carl (Charlie) Bloom , Paul Bloom, Unk, Elmer Bloom, David Bloom, Unk.

Helen and Charles Bloom had a musical family. Paul, the oldest, was born in Center City, Minnesota. He was baptized and confirmed at Chisago Lakes Lutheran Church in Center City. His love of music was evident early on. He had a band and played at the local bandstand weekly. In the evenings they (the family) gathered around the piano with a couple of instruments and their choir voices for a "sing". They did classical, popular and religious songs. He attended Gustavus Adolphus College and was active in and traveled with various music groups. He married **Lola C. Stromgren** 6-15-1913 in Center City, Minnesota. Her parents were John Edward Stromgren and Jennie Christine Mobeck. Early in their marriage he was in the insurance business, later he became a rural mail carrier and continued in that occupation until he retired. Paul also became a local music leader. He directed bands in many communities. He was organist and choir director at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lindstrom for more than 20 years. He organized and conducted the

Chisago Lake Chorus
Front row: 3rd from left – Paul Bloom, Director; 4th from left – David Bloom; far right – front row: August Bloom.
Middle row from left: P. Jonason, Edwin Jonason, Reymond Jonason
Back row: I think that is Elmer Bloom who is in the 3rd position from left.

first band at Chisago Lakes High School. He conducted concerts before three of our country's presidents, four governors and King Gustaf Adolph, the then Crown Prince of Sweden. "He had the all too rare soul of the genuine artist." (*Quote from Paul's obituary where there is much more interesting information about his musical gifts to the community.) He died 2-7-1960 in Lindstrom, Minnesota, at age 73. Lola died 11-23-1979 in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. Paul and Lola had two children, **Ralph** (who was adopted and is deceased) and **Ethel Pauline**.

About Ralph Bloom as told by his daughter, Nancy Bloom Miller

Ralph Calvin, was born to Charles and Gertrude McRae of Lindstrom or Center City. Charlie was a tinsmith and he worked behind Johnson's Hardware in Lindstrom. They had married late--I think they were both in their late 30s-early 40s at the time. They also had a 4 year old, Phillip, and a 2-year-old, Fern. Gertrude passed away when Ralph was 6 weeks old and so both 2 year old Fern and infant Ralph were fostered out to another family. That family, however, couldn't keep both children so Lola and Paul Bloom, took baby Ralph and adopted him. Ralph's 2 year old sister, continued to live with her foster family until she married and older brother, Phillip, was killed in France during WWII. Shortly after adopting Ralph, Paul and Lola were blessed with Aunt Sis (Pauline Bloom Trestrail.) Ralph, couldn't have found a better family. They encouraged whatever interests he had, including music and printing. Gramma bought him his own little printing press and he used to tinker around, printing his own newspaper in high school.

More about Ralph Bloom as told by his daughter, Wendy Bloom Austin.

Grandpa was so proud of Ralph and I don't think any son could have been as bright and talented as my father, Ralph, was. He followed in Grandpa Bloom's musical footsteps and played his trumpet professionally before he decided his growing family needed him more than the band. Dad's music was everything to him. He wrote and arranged music. He also was teaching himself to play the organ. Grandpa Paul was the church organist at the Lutheran church in Lindstrom for years. Paul's legacy has been passed down to us grandchildren. We all excelled on musical instruments and sang in choirs. My Grandfather, Paul, also passed on his love of books and reading to my father. I doubt Dad would have loved reading and writing as much as he did if it were not for the Blooms. Grandma Lola even bought Ralph a little printing press when he was in high school. He operated it in his own storefront space in Center City. Dad printed his own town newsletter and who knows what else.

I am very happy that Paul and Lola raised my dad. Grandpa showed dad a world of music and books. Grandma was a selfless, once in a lifetime human being, who loved dad and us unconditionally. After Paul died she would split her time living with one of her two children. I used to share a bed with Grandma Lola. Every night she would ask "What would you like to hear about tonight?" We'd name something or someone, and she would make up the most elaborate beautiful fairy tales as we were falling asleep. It is one of my most precious childhood memories.

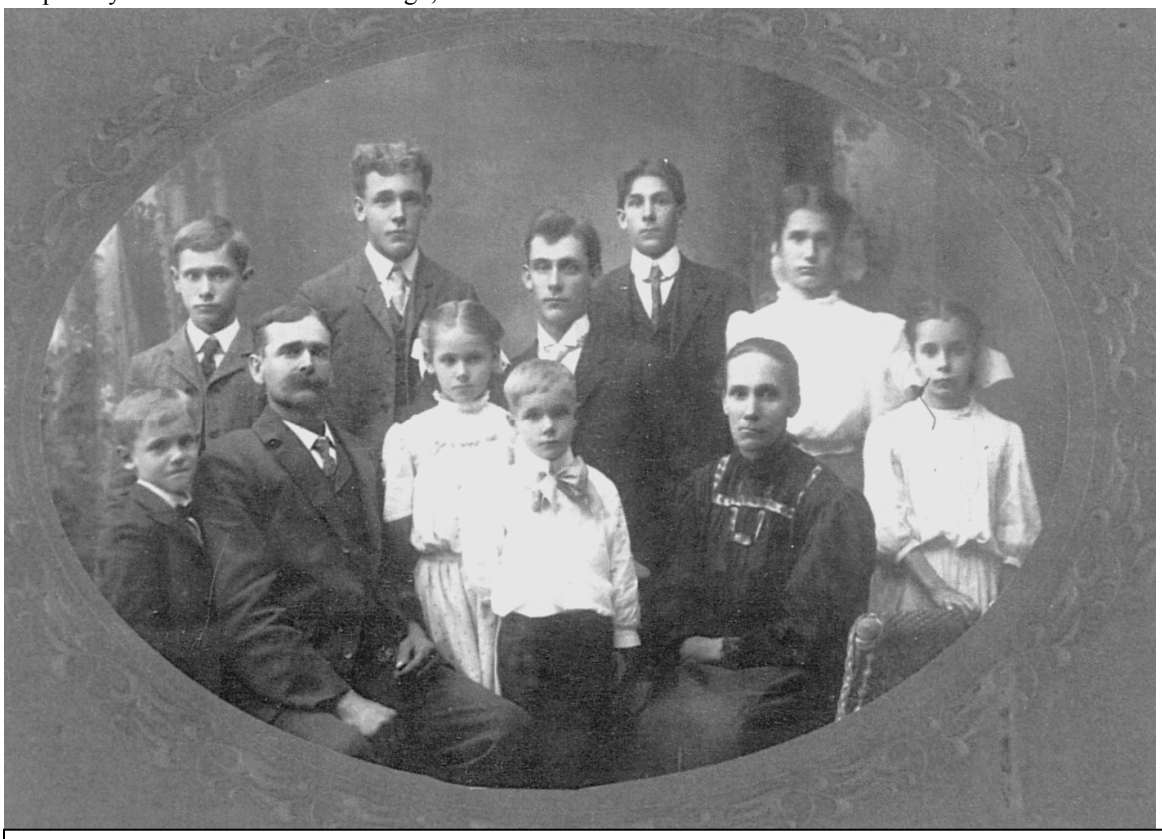
Ethel Pauline was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She married Richard William Trestrail on March 23, 1947. Ethel retired from various office jobs. She had worked at the University of Minnesota for two years. Ethel married **Richard William Trestrail** who was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was the son of **William Roger Trestrail** and **Hazel Irene Spicer**. He was graduated with a Ph.D. from the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington. He was a professor at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Ethel's daughter Candace Lynn Trestrail was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She was graduated with a BA from the University of Wisconsin in Whitewater, Wisconsin. She is a project manager, Mechanical Equipment, Elgin, Illinois. She married **Robert Maffei** on March 20, 1971, in Columbus, Ohio. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio. He was the son of Eppic Maffei and Bruna ?. He was graduated with a Masters Degree in English Management from Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts. He was vice-president of sales for Midwesco Inc. in Illinois. **Alissa Lynn Maffei** was born in Winfield, Illinois. She is a student at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. She is employed at Patrick Engineering in Lisle, Illinois.

Ethel's son William Mark Trestrail was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in mechanical engineering. And then was employed at Novistor in Chicago, Illinois. He married **Sandra Louise Hall** on 5-11-1974 in Hartford, Wisconsin.

Sandra Louise Hall was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to Wayne Hall and Delores ?. She was graduated with an Associate of Arts Degree from Triton College in Oak Park, Illinois, and she is a student at the University of Illinois in Chicago, Illinois.

William's son Dwayne Stewart Trestrail was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He is a production manager at a food processing company in Joliet, Illinois. He married **Donna Carmignani** on February 24, 1995, in Chicago, Illinois. They have two children: **Amelia Anne** and **Grace Lauren**. **Dwayne** was adopted by **William** in 1977 in Chicago, Illinois.



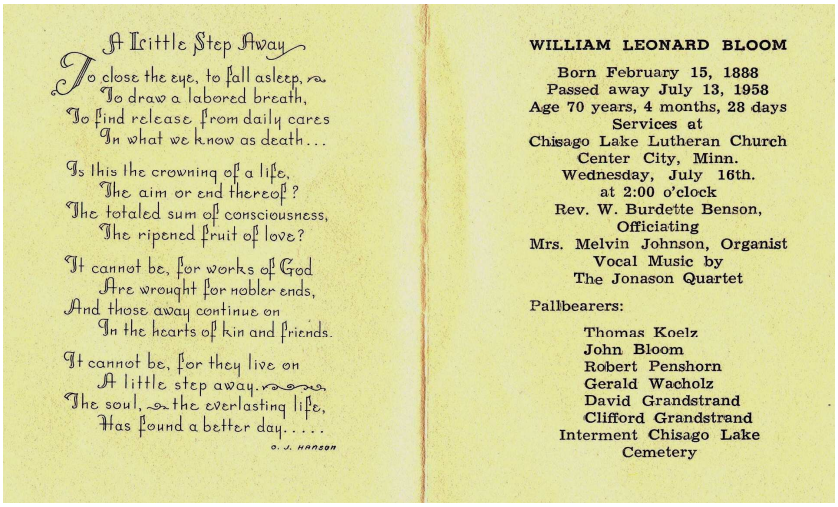
Charles and Helena Bloom's Family (the youngest child (Helen?) was not as yet born.) Back: Reuben, Paul, William, Elmer, Anna Front: Wendell, Adelia, Oliver, Edla

1888 William "Willie" Bloom 1958

By Willie's daughter, Lillian Bloom Johnson

William or "Willie" was the second child in Charles Bloom's family. Willie loved farming and remained a farmer all of his life. He married **Anna Sandberg** in 1912. She lived on a farm across the Bloom Lake from where Willie grew up. She was attracted to him because he was such a cheerful and kind fellow, and he always tied her skates for her. They had ten children and eighteen grandchildren. They were very active in Chisago Lakes Lutheran Church where Willie served on the church board for a few years. Anna played the piano. Music and singing were always part of their lives as they continued Willie's childhood tradition of singing around the "pot-bellied" stove in the living room for their evening prayers. Willie and Anna had ten children: **Donald, Ralph, Richard, Wilbur, Byron, Helen, Ruth, Grace, Robert C.,** and **Lillian C**.

Grace Margaret Bloom married **John Marston Tarbox**. She was a homemaker, Boy Scout leader, avid golfer, snow skier, partner in John's Shaklee business and hospital volunteer. John has been a sportswriter, World Book salesman and is currently a Shaklee salesman. He is an avid sportsman; he plays golf, plays tennis and snow skis. He currently resides in South Bend, Indiana. They have two sons: John David and Richard Paul.



A Little Step Away

To close the eye, to fall asleep,
To draw a labored breath,
To find release from daily cares
In what we know as death...

Is this the crowning of a life,
The aim or end thereof?
The totaled sum of consciousness,
The ripened fruit of love?

It cannot be, for works of God
Are wrought for nobler ends,
And those away continue on
In the hearts of kin and friends.

It cannot be, for they live on
A little step away.
The soul, in the everlasting life,
Has found a better day.....

O. J. HANSON

WILLIAM LEONARD BLOOM

Born February 15, 1888
Passed away July 13, 1958
Age 70 years, 4 months, 28 days
Services at
Chisago Lake Lutheran Church
Center City, Minn.
Wednesday, July 16th.
at 2:00 o'clock
Rev. W. Burdette Benson,
Officiating
Mrs. Melvin Johnson, Organist
Vocal Music by
The Jonason Quartet

Pallbearers:

Thomas Koelz
John Bloom
Robert Penshorn
Gerald Wacholz
David Grandstrand
Clifford Grandstrand

Interment Chisago Lake
Cemetery

John David married **Joyce Marie Chase**. He is an accountant for the Department of Defense. He was graduated from Indiana University with an MBA. He enjoys golf and reading. Joyce is a homemaker, Girl Scout leader and school volunteer. They currently reside in Indianapolis, Indiana. They have four children: Natasha Lynn, Jennifer Anne, John Warren and Mary Katherine.

Natasha was graduated from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, with a degree in English. She is a riding instructor at Agape Therapeutic Riding Stables in Cicero, Indiana, and lives in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Jennifer was graduated from DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, with a degree in psychology. She is currently traveling and working abroad in New Zealand.

John is currently enrolled at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona, where he resides. His main interest is music.

Mary Katherine is in the first grade at St. Lawrence School in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Lillian (Lil) Bloom married **C. Leslie Johnson** who was a pilot for Northwest Airlines for forty years. They had five children: Gregory, Steven, Daniel, Susan and Jennifer.

Gregory was born with Down's Syndrome. He lived in a group home and worked at Opportunity Workshop in Minneapolis, Minnesota (he died in 2008).

Steven married **Geraldine "Jerri" Bussert**. He works for Lockheed-Martin as a software manager. Jerri is a nurse and homeopathic consultant. They had three children: Karina, Marta and Eli. **Karina** married **Mike Roth**. Mike is a city clerk for the town of Grand Marias, Minnesota. Karina is a homemaker and majored in music and math. They have two children: **Noah** and **Amelia**. **Marta** is a professional music accompanist. **Eli** is a student majoring in music.

Daniel married **Susan Van Dycke**. Dan is pastor of the Evangelical Covenant Church in Tucson, Arizona. Susan is a teacher of gifted children. They have three children: Connor, Kersta and Collin. **Connor** is a college student majoring in biblical studies and physical education. **Kersta** is a college student. **Collin** was born in 1989.

Susan married **Jim Ewert**. He is a machine shop manager. Susan is a retired music teacher. They have two children: Laurel and Sarah. **Laura** is an opera singer. **Sarah** has a degree in communications and music.

Jennifer married **Scott Munger**. He is a Linguistic and Translator for NIV. They have two daughters: Rachel and Rebecca. **Rachel** is majoring in science in college. **Rebecca** was born in 1986.

5-7-1889 Gustave Elmer "Yice" 2-26-1961

Gustave Elmer went by the name Elmer, but his brothers and sisters called him "Yice." (Everyone had nicknames -- we also had a Kirsti, Ditchi, Pete and Toey). He attended Commercial College at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, worked in the Strand Store in Marine on St. Croix and sang in the St. Paul Swedish Male Chorus. He continued to live on the family dairy farm until he enlisted in the Army on June 15, 1918. He was mustered out January 18, 1919. As far as we can determine, Elmer either took over the payments on the farm, or bought it back after foreclosure, so, though he wasn't the oldest, the family farm passed to him. On June 9, 1928 Elmer married **Eleanor Lundeen**. When Elmer's father died in January 1929, the farm was sold and Elmer moved his family to a farm near Cushing, Wisconsin. John Charles Bloom was born March 20, 1929. The family lived in Wisconsin until 1954 when Elmer and Eleanor retired to the house by the church in Center City. Elmer sang in the choir. He and Eleanor were custodians of the Chisago Lakes Lutheran Church.

John Charles Bloom was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. He retired after forty years with North American Life & Casualty Company (later Allianz Life Insurance Company) as controller and vice-president. He and his wife, Arlene, just celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary. **Arlene** was also graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College and is a retired accountant. They had three children: Susan, Marcia and Ronald. Arlene died on November 6, 2006 and so John married Marjorie Darling on March 12, 2006.

Susan Bloom married **Rod Baakkonen**. She was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College and is employed as a human resources manager at Tasks Unlimited in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Tasks is a non-profit organization that provides services to and operates group homes for people with mental illnesses.

Marcia Bloom married **Mike Bodnar**. She was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College and is a human resources manager at the San Diego, California office of March McLennan. They have three children: **Maxwell, Eric** and **Jessica**.

Ronald Bloom was graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He is employed as a systems engineer for Qualcomm in San Diego, California

Anna Bloom Tvedt

by Pat Bloom Penshorn

Anna was the first girl and fourth child born to **Charles** and **Helena**. I remember Anna as soft spoken, bright and very kind. She was a home economics teacher and an excellent cook who didn't waste a morsel. She had a serious heart condition and died at a young age, perhaps in her 50s. Anna married a career Army man, Chester Tvedt. They lived in San Antonio, then Hagerstown, West Virginia, after WWII. It was while they lived there that brother Elmer and his wife Eleanor Bloom and their son John Bloom visited them. Another brother Pete (Wendell) and his wife Lucia Bloom and sister Delia Bloom also visited. Anna and Chester had two children, Harold (deceased) and Neal.

Family gathering about 1940 at Wendell and Lucia Bloom's home in St. Paul, MN

1896 Edla Bloom Wacholz

by Pat Bloom Penshorn and Cherrol Bloom Soiseth:

At left: Charlie Bloom Farm. May 1913

Edla, our aunt, was a kind woman who always thought the best of people. She told us about hair - raising adventures she had when she taught school in Toime, Minnesota, as a nineteen year old. When she came home to visit, she and another teacher took the train to Fairbanks, Minnesota, and then had to walk miles to their home. They sometimes encountered bear, moose and deer along the way. She also taught in southern Minnesota where she met and married **Arthur Wacholz**. They had a successful dairy farm. He died in his 50s. Son, **Gerald**, ran the farm after Arthur died. Their good business sense and hard work made the farm a successful venture. **Doris Delia**, their other child, died very young. Edla and son Gerald ran the farm and converted it from a dairy farm to a hog farm. "When we used to visit it was always fun because Gerry had named all the cows after his extended family. It was always a game between us sisters to see if Julie, Dawn, Sally, Ann, Carrie, or Sue gave the most milk (this from Julie Penshorn, Pat Bloom Penshorn's daughter). Gerald died in his forties when he was hit head-on by a drunk driver. Edla then sold the farm and moved to Kiester, Minnesota where she died in her 80s.

Wendell, Paul, Elmer, William, Oliver, Delia, Lucile and Helena taken at Elmer and Eleanor Bloom's home in Cushing, Wisconsin

10-1898 Adelia ("Delia") Amanda Bloom 1979

by Pat Bloom Penshorn and Cherrol Bloom Soiseth:

She was born in October of 1898. When she was a very young, Delia went to her aunt's and uncle's home near Chisago City to help out and baby-sit her cousins. She missed her family so much. She was maybe nine years old. She took business courses and eventually became the office manager for Scheffer and Rossum Company in St. Paul, Minnesota. When she retired, she volunteered her time.

A soft-spoken, kind woman, Delia never raised her voice and always spoke well about others. She was an avid reader and gave books to all her nieces and nephews at Christmas. She was a most generous person. She was a hospital volunteer and an important and loving part of our family. Delia was a member of the Degree of Honor Lodge. She was member of Gloria Dei Lutheran church in St. Paul. It was in Delia's arms that Reuben, her brother, died from his accident.

Delia and her mother, Helena lived together until Helena died. Delia died at 81 years after being struck by an automobile when crossing the street.

1-9-1900 Carl Wendell (Pete) Bloom 1955

by Patricia Bloom Penshorn and Cherrol Bloom Soiseth:

When we came to the Bloom Reunion, all the cousins came running and hollered, "Here's Uncle Pete." He was an extrovert—the one who started the party. He seemed to love the children and took the time to play with them. He loved to sing in choirs with family and with the St. Paul Swedish Male Chorus.
He was a traveling salesman most of his adult life. On occasion he would take us with him on a road trip. Those memories are very special. Sometimes mother would go with him and grandma (Helena Bloom) and Delia would take care of us. Grandma and Delia shared the same home with Pete and Lucia from 1938 until their deaths. Wendell was a salesman and married **Lucia Benson** on November 27, 1926. They had 3

daughters, **Patricia, Cherrol** and **Linda** (deceased). Wherever they lived, Wendell had a beautiful garden, especially roses and gladiolus. Wendell died in 1955 at the age of 55 years

Patricia Anne is a textile artist and teacher. Her husband, **Robert Penshorn**, is a public accountant. They have three daughters, Julie Dawn, Sally and Carrie Sue.

Julie, was graduated from St. Thomas College with a MBC in Communications. She is an author and owner of Sunborn Stables in Chisago City, Minnesota. She has one son, Collin Peterson.

Sally is a cosmetologist and owner of "On the Avenue" Beauty Shop. She married **William Kaysen** and has two sons: Jacob and Adam. **Jacob Kaysen** is a graduate of Northwestern Technical College and is in sales management and marketing. **Adam Kaysen** is a student at St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Sally's second husband is **Kevin Chapeau**.

Carrie Sue is a cosmetologist and owner of "Old Towne Hair" in Chisago City. She has two sons: **Madisen Penshorn Fischer** and **Colton Penshorn Fischer**.

Cherrol (**Mimi)**was graduated from Macalester College with a BA in Sociology. She is a clothes shop owner and married **Robert Soiseth** on June 16, 1957. They have four children: Jonathan Robert, Kristin Marie, Luke Eric and Daniel Walter.

Jonathan was graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and is working on his M.S. in Mechanical Engineering at California Poly Technic University of Pomona. He married **Lisa Perry** and has one child, **Alexandra Ruth**.

Kristin was graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.A. in International Relations. She is project coordinator for Hewlett Packard in Munich, Germany. She married **Dieter Hesse**. They have two children: **William Nathan** and **Eileen Marie**.

Luke was graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.A. in English. He received his M.A. in English from the University of Minnesota Duluth. He is co-owner of "Reson 8" advertising and design in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Daniel was graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.A. in Speech and Communications. He is a television producer in California. He is married to **Tracy Verna**.

Linda Marie had her Licensed Practical Nursing Degree. She married **Paul Monson**. Her children are Peter, Rachel Yang Soon and Joshua Paul.

Peter Monson is a Paramedic Hennepin County Medical Center and is married to Shannon.

Joshua Paul Monson is married to **Adrienne** and has a son, **Jack Joshua**.

Rachel Yang Soon is a business analyst for American Express and is married to **Scott Michael**. They have a daughter, **Tessa**.

1902 Oliver M. "Toey" Bloom 1987

by Beverly Bloom Wheaton:

Charles' youngest son, **Oliver**, was a quiet, gentle person. Oliver was called "Toey" by his sisters and brothers. He was an outdoorsman; his passion was hunting and fishing. Oliver was a baritone soloist at church, weddings and funerals. He was a member of the St. Paul Swedish Male Chorus.

Oliver married **Mary Singer** in 1933 and he adopted her son**, Bill**.

Beverly was their daughter and she was born about 1934. They made their home in St. Paul, Minnesota. Beverly remembers riding with her dad as he made grocery deliveries in rural Minnesota. Her favorite times were when they would be driving in the country, select a giant shade tree and share their bag lunch. His pocket always held an apple or orange and, at Christmas, rainbow colored ribbon candy.

Oliver spent his last years in Buffalo, Minnesota, where his granddaughter, **Sandy**, had made her home. He lived at Buffalo Hills Retirement home for three years. He spent weekends at Sandy's country home where he loved to help with the gardening and yard work. When he moved to Ebenezer Nursing Home in the early 1980's, he started a choir with his daughter's help. He lived at Ebenezer for two years before going to his final resting place.

5-30-1908 Helena Ruby Lucile Bloom 7-1995

by Arlene and Thomas Koelz:

Lucile was the last child of Helena and Charles Bloom, seven years younger than her brother, Oliver. She had many fond memories of growing up near Center City and playing with her lifelong friend and cousin, Irene Bloom Johnson. Lucile developed a passion for education and was graduated from Macalester College where she majored in English. She loved theater and singing. She had a lovely voice and sang for many years in her church choir and in small groups.

In 1936 she married **Arden Koelz** from Cottonwood, Minnesota. He was a good friend of her brother and roomed with Helena Bloom in St. Paul. They moved to Worthington, Minnesota, in 1937. Lucile helped her husband while he worked in a number of business ventures. Their final effort, the K & T Propane Gas Company was very successful. They had two sons, **Thomas** and **Timothy**. Both **Tim** and **Thomas** Koelz became doctors.

Lucile lived to see her seven grandchildren and four of her great grandchildren. She enjoyed spending time with and helping her older sisters, Edla and Delia. She was a lovely lady. She died in July, 1995.

Above:
Paul Bloom 1886 – 1960 m. 1913
Gustav Elmer Bloom 1889 – 1961 m. 1928
Willie Bloom 1888 – 1958 m. 1912

Left:
Paul Bloom
Son of Charlie
born June 10, 1886 –
died Feb 7, 1960

May Johnson,
Irene Bloom
Lucille Bloom

4-21-1915 Helen Bloom 6-6-1991

by Dan Boudreau

Helen and Gary at their home on Lake Wapogasset, in the mid 1980's.

Helen Bloom was born on April 21, 1915. The daughter of Willie and Anna (granddaughter of Charles) was the third of ten children.

When Willie and Anna were first married, they lived with Charles and Helena (Gustaf Bloom's son) on their farm just outside of Center City. It was there that their first child, Donald, was born. Shortly after Donald was born, they moved to Moody's farm that was nearby, and Anna gave birth to their second son, Byron. About a year later Anna's father, David Sandberg, passed away. Anna's sister, Ida, and her husband, Emil Grandstrand, took over that farm which was just across what would later be known as Bloom's lake.

Willie and Anna took over Ida and Emil's farm; it was there that the rest of their children (Helen, Ruth, Grace, Lillian, Ralph, Robert, Richard, and Wilbur) would be born. Life was never easy on the farm, but Willie and Anna made sure the children had what they needed. They all learned the lessons of faith, family, school and an honest day's work. The children all learned to enjoy life's simple pleasures and were grateful for all that they had - including each other. As the children grew up and the Great Depression loomed nearer, some of them looked for work in the nearby towns of Chisago and Lindstrom. Helen worked in Chisago for a time. Shortly after graduating from high school in 1932, she moved to Saint Paul where she found a job working as a housekeeper.

In 1932 Willie and Anna purchased the Elmquist farm that bordered the western side of Bloom's Lake. Formerly owned by a man who served in the Civil War, it had fallen into disrepair and needed quite a bit of work. This farm is still in the family, owned by Betty Bloom and operated by her sons David and Nelson, two of Willie and Anna's great grandsons.

The farm was always home to Willie and Anna's children, and they would always come home to be with the family. They never lost that sense of family and caring for each other. Helen bought her mother, Anna, the first washing machine the family ever had, and sister Ruth purchased skis for the younger children, so they could ski to school. When the children would leave, they always left with vegetables, maple syrup or meat given to them by Willie and Anna.

Life was never easy on the farm, but Willie and Anna made sure the children had what they needed. They all learned the lessons of faith, family, school and an honest day's work. The children all learned to enjoy life's simple pleasures and were grateful for all that they had - including each other. As the children grew up and the Great Depression loomed nearer, some of them looked for work in the nearby towns of Chisago and Lindstrom.

Helen worked in Chisago for a time. Shortly after graduating from high school in 1932, she moved to Saint Paul where she found a job working as a housekeeper.

Shortly after Helen moved to Saint Paul, she met Gary Park. On June 19, 1937, she and Gary were married. They lived in Saint Paul where Gary worked at a bank. Soon they had two daughters, Anita and Judy.

The Great Depression had since ended, but now it was World War II. Like many other men in America, including some of Helen's brothers, Gary was called into service. He joined the Navy and served in the Pacific Theater. He served his country with honor and distinction and returned home after the war to Helen, his two young daughters and his job at the bank. Helen and Gary lived in West Saint Paul where they

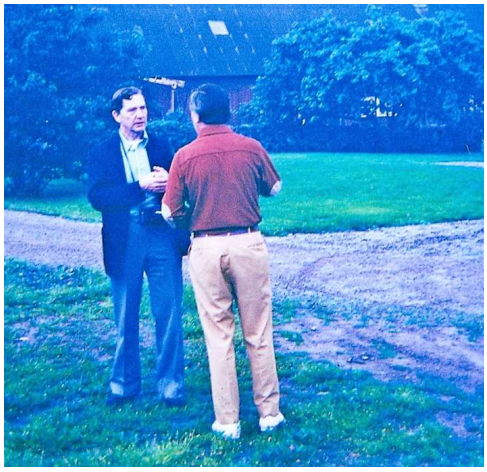
raised Anita and Judy, and Gary enjoyed a successful career at the bank. Eventually, Anita and Judy both married and started families. Anita married James Jacobsen; Judy married Ed Boudreau.

In 1973 Gary retired from the bank. He and Helen sold their home in West Saint Paul and moved to their lake home on Lake Wapogasset near Amery, Wisconsin. During the 1970's Helen underwent open-heart surgery twice at United Hospital. These were some of the first of their type and were successful. After that she lived a quiet life at the lake where she actively enjoyed her many interests such as gardening, reading, fishing, collecting agates and spending time with her grandchildren. She and Gary were also active members at the Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Gary was active in the American Legion and involved in communities around Amery and Lake Wapogasset.

Edward and Judy Boudreau family: Michelle, David, Daniel and William

I remember with fondness those days of my youth spent at the lake with my grandparents. Helen and Gary stimulated interests in all of us that have stayed with us all of our lives. They taught us about faith, nature, books and the world around us. We would spend hours in the nearby gravel pit and take long walks through the woods. There was plenty of time for fishing, too, but the interesting activities always included lessons and facts about history, nature and God. In the evenings, we would spend hours looking through National Geographic and reading books from our grandparents' library. Sometimes we would go with our grandparents back to the farm where Helen was raised for picnics and family gatherings. At that time her brother, Wilbur, was still working the farm. There we would learn more about our heritage, enjoy family time together and have wonderful childhood adventures.

On a sunny morning in June of 1991 Helen died. Gary followed her ten years later. Helen and Gary Park, my grandparents, were two of the greatest people I have ever known.



Above pictures are from Richard Bloom's collection (Family Carl) that he (Richard) took when he was in Sweden with his Swedish Girls Choir in 1978. Pictures left to right – top to bottom are:

1. Present day owner of Blom farm with Grandpa and guide.
2. Guide Mr. Nielson explaining area with original barn in background. Richard and his wife, Terri stayed with Mr. Nielson.
3. Richard holding a map of the Blom farm. Man to left of Richard has been on the Blom farm for many years – his son, on Richard/s right, is current farmer.
4. Richard and Terri Bloom in front of current house on Blom farm.

None of the people in this picture (other than Richard and Terri) are relatives.

1. Ms Christine Amanda BLOOM (b.1858-Center City,T3,S7,L7M;d.1946-Bethesda Hospital)
- sp: Mr. John Gabrielson ROSE (b.1849-Drev,Sweden;m.1876;d.1898)
- 2, Dr. Anton Richard ROSE PhD (b.1877-Scandia,Minnesota;d.1948)
  - sp: Dr. Mary Davies SWARTZ PhD (b.1874;m.1910;d.1941)
  - 3, Mr. Richard Collin ROSE (b.1915)
    - sp: Ms Marjorie Paine MITCHELL (b.1920;m.1942;d.2004-Rutland Medical Center,M,V)
    - 4, Mr. Richard Mitchell ROSE (b.1944)
      - sp: Ms Janet Virgina BOWERS (b.1942;m.1966)
      - 5, Mr. Stephen Andrew ROSE (b.1969)
        - sp: Ms Laura Luduska OWEN (b.1969;m.1996)
        - 6. Mr. Cian Shane ROSE (b.2003)
        - 6. Ms Ciara Mairead ROSE (b.2005)
      - 5, Dr. Wendy Susan ROSE D.V.M. (b.1973)
        - sp: Mr. William Travis FORBES (b.1974;m.2001)
        - 6. Mr. Callen Mitchell FORBES (b.2012)
    - 4, Ms Kristine Ann ROSE (b.1948)
      - sp: Mr. Jerome John BOURASSA (b.1942;m.1971)
      - 5. Ms Julie Ann BOURASSA (b.1971;d.1972)
      - 5, Mr. Todd James BOURASSA (b.1975)
        - sp: Ms Michelle BATEASE
        - 6. Ms Amber Marie Batease BOURASSA (b.1996)
      - 5, Mr. Mark David BOURASSA (b.1977)
        - sp: Ms Emily
- 2. Ms Johanna ROSE (b.1878;d.1878)
- 2, Ms Jennie Carolina ROSE (b.1878-Scandia,MN;d.1960-White Plains,NY)
  - sp: The Reverend August T. SEASHORE (b.1871;m.1903;d.1934)
  - 3, Dr. Rosel Theodore SEASHORE MD (b.1904-Swea City,IA;d.1962-Duluth,Mn)
    - sp: Ms Dorthy Elizabeth PRICE (b.1910-Tacoma,Wa;m.1933;d.1992-Duluth,Mn)
    - 4, Ms Elaine Elizabeth SEASHORE (b.1936-Duluth,Mn)
      - sp: Mr. George Fred WATERSTON (b.1932-Texas;m.1958(Div))
      - 5, Ms Dawn Elizabeth Waterston HIGGINS (b.1959-){AGrand Rapids,MN)
        - sp: Mr. David BEAM
        - sp: Mr. Steven COOPER (m.1987(Div))
        - 6. Ms Jolene Elizabeth COOPER (b.1989)
      - 5, Ms Kimberly Ann Waterston HIGGINS (b.1960-Grand Rapids,MN)
        - sp: Mr.Richard Alen PIETRZAK (b.1955-Hammond,IN;m.1997)
        - 6. Mr. Luis Alberto Medellin PIETRZAK (b.1983-){AMexico)
        - 6. Ms Catherine Nicole LIGHT (b.1986){A}
        - sp: UNKNOWN
        - 6. Mr.Michael James HIGGINS (b.1983)
      - sp: Mr. James Allen HIGGINS (b.1928-Duluth,Mn;m.1968;d.2011)
    - 4, Ms Virginia Leone SEASHORE (b.1940-Duluth,Mn)
      - sp: Mr. Roger DECAIGNY (b.1937-Duluth,Mn;m.1959)
      - 5, Mr. Gregory Allen DECAIGNY (b.1962-Chicago Heights,IL)
        - sp: Ms Shannon (b.1967;m.1995)
        - 6. Ms Sandra DECAIGNY
      - 5, Mr. Scott Theodore DECAIGNY (b.1963-Chicago Heights,IL)
        - sp: Ms Theresa ROELLER (m.1984)
        - 6. Ms Angela Marie DECAIGNY (b.1985)

- 6. Mr. Scott THomas DECAIGNY Jr. (b.1987)
- 5, Mr. Michael Joseph DECAIGNY (b.1964-Chicago Heights,IL)
  - sp: Ms Donna
    - 6. Mr.Cole DECAIGNY
    - 6. Ms Emma DECAIGNY
- 5, Mr. Christopher Lee DECAIGNY (b.1968-Chicago Heights,IL)
  - sp: Ms Ellen MUNTS (m.1994)
    - 6. Mr.Williams DECAIGNY (b.2002)
- 5. Ms Leanne Elizabeth DECAIGNY (b.1971-Chicago Heights,IL)

3, Dr. Harold Gustaf SEASHORE (b.1906-Swea,Iowa;d.1965-White Plains,New York)
- sp: Ms Ruby IDSTROM (m.1933)
  - 4, Ms Anne Caroline SEASHORE (b.1936)
    - sp: Dr. Garth R. DREWRY
      - 5. Mr. Raymond George DREWRY
      - 5. Mr. David Harold DREWRY
      - 5. Ms Elizabeth Anne DREWRY
      - 5. Mr. Douglas Garth DREWRY
  - 4, Dr. John Harold SEASHORE (b.1939)
    - sp: Dr. Margretta REED
      - 5. Mr. Robert Harold SEASHORE
      - 5. Mr. Carl John SEASHORE
      - 5. Ms Carolyn Logan SEASHORE

3, Mr. Collin Mauritz SEASHORE (b.1908;d.1988)
- sp: Ms Rachel Key RANCK (b.1915;m.1939)
  - 4, Ms Rachel Key SEASHORE (b.1943)
    - sp: Mr. Robert KURTZ (b.1943;m.1964)
      - 5, Ms Kristen Lynn KURTZ (b.1967)
        - sp: UNKNOWN
      - 5, Mr. Robert Russell KURTZ (b.1969)
        - sp: Lisa LAGASSE (m.1995)
          - 6. Rachel KURTZ (b.1998)
          - 6. Robert KURTZ (b.2001)
  - 4, Ms Kristin M. SEASHORE (b.1947)
    - sp: Mr. Adam KORNFIELD (b.1964;m.1998)
      - 5. Mr. Jordan KORNFIELD (b.1995)
      - 5. Ms Jessica KORNFIELD (b.2001)

3, Ms Selma SEASHORE (b.1919;d.2001)
- sp: Mr. Willard C. MATTHIAS
  - 4. Ms Jane Iris MATTHIAS (b.1947)
  - 4, Mr.Theodore MATTHIAS (b.1951)
    - sp: Ms Carol WILDES (m.1978)
      - 5. Mr. Colin Eldridge MATTHIAS
      - 5. Mr. Jonah Nathaniel MATTHIAS

3, Dr. Stanley Emanuel SEASHORE (b.1915)
- sp: Ms Eva DANIELSON
  - 4, Dr. Karen Rose SEASHORE (b.1945)
    - sp: Dr. Thomas Arthur LOUIS (m.(Div))
      - 5, Ms Margit Seashore LOUIS (b.1974)
        - sp: Mr. Michael FOLEY (m.2001)
          - 6. Ms Bridget Rose FOLEY (b.2005)
          - 6. Mr. Charles Louis FOLEY (b.2006)

- 6. Ms Avery FOLEY (b.2010)
- 5. Ms Erica Louise LOUIS (b.1978)
- 4, Ms Christine Sigrid SEASHORE (b.1952)
  - sp: Mr. Gregory LUDLOW
    - 5. Ms Brinton Anna LUDLOW (b.1982)
    - 5. Mr. James Gregorey LUDLOW (b.1986)
- 3, Ms Sylvia Christine SEASHORE (b.1919)
  - sp: Mr. Arthur KOERBER (m.1945;d.1999)

2. Mr. Victor Edward ROSE (b.1880;d.1880)
2. Mr. William Alvin ROSE (b.1881;d.1891)
2. Ms. Laura Theresia ROSE (b.1883;d.1972-Stillwater,MN)
2. Mr. Herman Gabriel ROSE (b.1884;d.1884)
2. Ms Agnes Katrina ROSE (b.1885;d.1886)
2. Mr. Carl Irving ROSE (b.1887;d.1888)
2, Ms Anna Virginia ROSE (b.1888;d.1968)
- sp: Mr. Edwin G. Johnson LEFFLER (b.1890;d.1950)
- 3, Dr. John Edward LEFFLER PhD (b.1920-Boston,Mass;d.2000-Florida)
  - sp: Ms Nell White FOUST (b.1922;m.1952)

2, Ms Emma Estella ROSE (b.1889;d.1965-Forest Lake,MN)
- sp: Mr. Henning Eric ERICKSON (b.1884;m.1911;d.1972-Stillwater,MN)
- 3, Ms Marian Rose ERICKSON (b.1918-Stillwater,MN;d.1992-Forest Lake,MN)
  - sp: Mr. Edwin HIGGINS (m.1937;d.1937-Long Beach,CA)
  - sp: Mr. Harold Alvin ANDERSON (b.1908-North Branch,MN;m.1940;d.1999-Monticello,MN)
    - 4, Ms Carol Christine ANDERSON (b.1942-St. Paul,MN)
      - sp: Mr. James Harold FJERSTAD D.D.S (b.1938;m.1961(Div))
      - 5, Ms Lynn Marie ROSE (b.1962-Minneapolis,MN)
        - sp: Mr. Kent LEHMEN (b.1961;m.1982(Div))
        - 6, Ms Lynn Fjerstad ROSE (b.1985-Minneapolis,MN)
          - sp: Mr. Zach REIF (m.2009)
            - 7. Ms Brittany Rose REIF
        - sp: Mr. Kirk Andre MYHRA (b.1963;m.1991(Div))
        - 6. Ms Morgan Ashley MYHRA (b.1993-Minneapolis,MN)
        - 6. Ms Lauren Alexa MYHRA (b.1996-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Douglas STAY (m.1966(Div))
      - 5. Mr. Michael Douglas STAY (b.1967-New York)
      - sp: Mr. Joseph Aleen MCCUE (b.1932;m.1971(Div))
      - sp: Mr. Garry Wayne OLSEN (b.1943;m.1994)
    - 4, Ms Gail Estelle ANDERSON (b.1942)
      - sp: Mr. Dennis MURPHY (b.1938-Grand Rapids,MN;m.1964(Div))
      - 5, Ms Marla Estelle MURPHY (b.1968-Duluth,MN)
        - sp: Mr. Rodney OLSON (b.1965-St. Paul,MN;m.1990)
        - 6. Mr. Colton Lance OLSON (b.1992-Stillwater,OK)
        - 6. Ms Constance Estelle OLSON (b.1995-Boone,North Carolina)
        - 6. Mr. Lance Robert OLSON (b.1998-River Forest,Illinois)
      - 5, Mr. Sean Steven MURPHY (b.1971-Duluth,MN)
        - sp: Ms Roberta TRENTIN (b.1980-Italy;m.2009)
        - 6. Mr. Luigi Erickson MURPHY (b.2010)
      - 5, Mr. Jason James Frances MURPHY (b.1972-Grand Rapids,MN)
        - sp: Ms Sashaa OLSON (b.1972-Monticello,MN;m.1991)
        - 6. Mr. Jeremiah Daniel MURPHY (b.1994-Sioux Falls,ND)
        - 6. Mr. Jacob James MURPHY (b.1998-Fort Wainwright,Alaska)

sp: Mr. Hugo SONBUCHNER (b.1937-Mora,MN;m.1983)
2. Mr. Jonas Gustaf Rudolph ROSE (b.1890;d.1891)
2. Ms Lillian Elizabeth ROSE (b.1893;d.1907)
2. Mr. John Gilbert ROSE (b.1896;d.1898)

Amanda Christine Bloom Rose

"Marine-on-St. Croix Visited in 1855 by Band of Sioux Indians on Warpath", Forest Lake Times, September 15, 1949. It was reprinted through courtesy of Stillwater-Post Messenger and written by Calvin Rutstrum.

By its very nature and historical background, Marine on St. Croix will remain unique among towns of Minnesota, if not to some extent nationally. Perhaps its closest counterpart might be found in the New England states or on the banks of some river in the British Isles. Situated on a ledge and in the hills overlooking the St. Croix River, it commands a point of scenic beauty that never fails to excite the passing traveler. It is almost, it seems, a contradiction in itself. For 111 years Marine on St. Croix has remained very nearly unchanged in general aspect, yet its property values are comparable with the most thriving commercial centers. The clue to this queer twist lies perhaps in the word "culture" or "tradition" and possibly even "antiquity".

From the Twin Cities and elsewhere, Marine on St. Croix has attracted persons with a deep interest in the natural and elemental sources of a good life. These durable qualities are clearly reflected in the very permanence of the dwellings erected by those who come here to live-usually substantial investments in wood, stone and brick with interior paneling of beautiful natural wood.

The earliest record shows that in the fall of 1838, Lewis S. Judd and David Hone found their way up the St. Croix River from Marine, Illinois, and selected the site for their lumber operations naming it Marine Mills. On returning to Illinois, they formed a company, and the following year set up their mill for power at the mouth of a fast running stream on the banks of the St. Croix. That same winter they managed to cut and saw 800,000 feet of lumber-the first in Minnesota. This history of this business appears far less interesting than the life that surrounded these operations. Settlers who arrived belonged to that vital chapter in American history that signaled the pioneering of our land.

The Marine Correspondent of the St. Croix Union for March 28, 1855, we have this interesting episode:

"Our town was visited yesterday by a party or band of Sioux Indians, about 150 or 200 in number. They were really a curiosity to many of our citizens, they not having seen since their settlement here so large a party of Indians before. They often come about the vicinity but scarcely ever visit our town. They are a war party, having been up the St. Croix River on a look for their sworn enemies, the Chippewa. I hear that on Goose Lake, a tributary stream of the St. Croix River, a small detachment of Sioux came across a Chippewa wigwam that they pilfered; among other articles they got about forty very valuable fur skins. They pursued the owners of the lodge whom they came up with, four in number; one of whom they killed; the others made their escape. They scalped the dead Chippewa and then cut him up in the most inhuman manner, made a barbecue of him and had a general feast."

The article goes on to describe the Indians, half-naked in appearance and with a jumble of equipment. Then comes up with this amusing remark: "But Indians must be human. I saw one cough, it appeared to be like the cough of a human being. They do a great many things that civilized humanity is doing. They get whiskey sometimes and get drunk. Animals do not do that. They must have a human soul. They do not understand the civilization, or the enlightenment of the present age; it confounds them, it overwhelms them."

Apparently, these Indians asked for food at the village store, for we have from the same correspondent another interesting sidelight: "They danced in great glee around a barrel of sour crackers that Messrs. Judd, Walker & Company put out for them. Judging by the many they devoured, they must have been anything but sour to them. They made just a noise as a flock of hungry geese would under the same circumstances."

Now a motor operates the ferry that crosses the St. Croix, but it wasn't long ago when the ferry was pulled by hand as in the early days. The region of Marine was Wisconsin territory then, and the ferry was installed chiefly to get mail across to the west side of the river.

In the same paper was this article: W.C.T.U. NOTES SWEDEN'S LIQUOR LAWS:

A ration book is required though the actual ration depends upon a person's age, sex, and wealth. Minimum age is 21. Married women received no monthly ration although it is presumed their husbands (who can get four bottles of whiskey per month) give them a "nip". The Swedish liquor system was introduced in 1913 and has helped in combating alcoholism. Since 1913 the annual consumption of spirits

per person has declined from 7.9 liters to 4.7 liters in 1944. In restaurants no drinks are served before noon and cannot be served without meals. Women are permitted only half the amount allowed men.

Great-Grandfather Gustaf Collin's letter to Christine Bloom

translated by Ruth (Porter) Bloom Sandstedt (Mrs Frank Bloom)

Dear Granddaughter, Amanda Christine Blom

God, from whom all Grace comes, through Jesus Christ our Lord. May He bless you and draw your heart to Himself and keep you going out and coming in now and forever more. Amen.

It is not good for man to be alone. I will make him a helpmate for him, and God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and He took one of his ribs and made a woman and brought her unto Him. And God said: "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh, one personality most intimately united". So thus has God himself instituted the first marriage. Now the Lord has placed His servants in His stead to carry out His work, and now that God Himself has instituted the state of marriage, should we not then keep this holy estate sacred? How then should such a holy estate be entered into? With prayer and supplication to God that the marriage may be rightly entered into in the name of the Holy God, and pray that He will for the sake of His son, Jesus Christ, bless, guide and direct by His Holy Spirit; lead them in all truth, keep them in His grace and drive away the devil who is the arch enemy of a true marriage and home. You dear child, I have heard that you are soon to enter into this of God's instituted holy estate; have you earnestly prayed to God for grace to follow His will and not to follow your own will? If God should give you children, are you agreed on that? He will also give you grace and wisdom to rear them by proper discipline and instruction in the precious word of God. You should be agreed on this before the marriage in order that you may approach the altar of the Lord with courage, confidence and hope in God who has instituted the marriage and be happy that this holy service is conducted in a Christian manner. You will thus be able to receive with thankfulness what the pastor has to impart to you in behalf of the Lord, and pray earnestly that He may be your God, and have your hearts for His temple and your home for His abode. Oh, how blessed you would then be! What does King David say in regard to this: Blessed is the man that fears the Lord and walks in His ways!

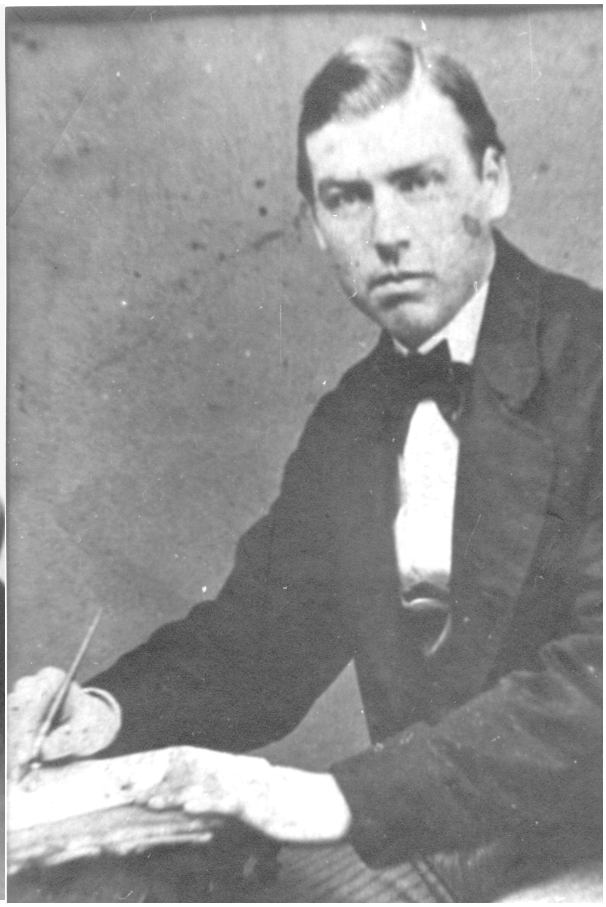
You shall feed yourself by the labors of your hands. Blessed art thou, your wife shall be as a fruitful vine and all shall be well in your house. Your children shall be as olive branches around your table; thus will the man be blest who fears the Lord. Should one then not be eager to fear the Lord honestly and faithfully, love Him who has first loved us. If we could only partially understand God's love for us, we could not help but love Him, for God so loved the world that He gave His only Son for us. Consider what this Son, Jesus Christ has done for us: suffered and died for us in order that we might be saved. What thanks does He get for it and what does He require of us? My son, my daughter give me your heart! For what purpose does He want the heart? Yes, He wants to save us from our sins. We have of course in Holy Baptism been received as God's children and live through Jesus Christ our Lord, but how long did we remain as such? One has reviewed this at confirmation, but how long did one remain faithful to this promise? If it was until the end of the day, it was good! And then consider – has there been a right conversion to the Lord with confession and prayer unto forgiveness? Nevertheless the Lord does not grow weary in inviting us to Himself, to woo us, yea in every possible way to win us that He might take His abode in our heart; only to do us good for time and eternity. Is not this love: if we only consider the little word; in Him we live and have our being. Should not this induce us to love Him? No one wants to be like the world! The Lord says: "He who is ashamed of Me, of him will I be ashamed". Let us consider this and earnestly pray God that He for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, will help us through all temptations. If we desire to remain in the fear of the Lord, we need have no fear. He is Almighty, He can protect His own so that not a hair shall fall from their heads without His will.

Dear Grandchild: When you enter into the intended marriage, do not forget your dear God and Savior Jesus Christ. Let Him be all in all, for then shall He bless you. Be concerned you and your intended husband to have your home as the Lord's temple and meditate and search the word of God with prayer and supplication to God. Keep your husband's parents in honor and love them as your own. Do as King David: Teach me thy right way O Lord, that I may keep it unto the end. Your statutes are my song in my home, your law is dear to me, daily I speak thereof. Pray God for wisdom that you may be able to live wisely with your husband, for in wisdom the home is built. A soft answer turneth away wrath. A quarrelsome woman and a constant dripping are alike, a mild eye will be blest, but the fear of the Lord is

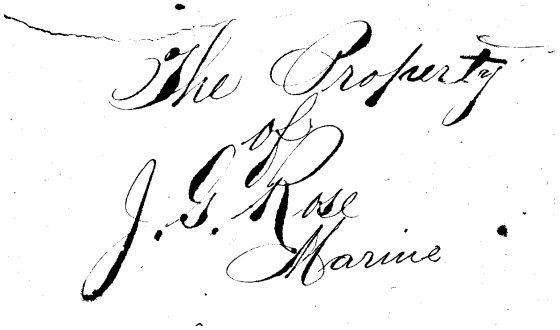
the beginning of wisdom. Beware that you sojourn wisely because the days are evil. Prove what is pleasing to the Lord, have no part in idle works of darkness, rather rebuke them. Shun all appearance of evil. Be ready to give to the poor, also to support of the church and do not neglect the pastors and schools. But do not put your trust therein so that you will think God will be gracious to you on account of it. Remember when we have done all, we are unprofitable servants. Never forget your parents, remember the care they had had for you, remember how heavy your mother was when you were lodged under her heart and much trouble afterward. Remember the word and commandment of God: "Honor thy father and thy mother and forsake them not in their old age". But first and last I admonish you never to forget Him who has created you, redeemed and sanctified you. Forget not what He has done and constantly does for you. If He should forsake you as a prey to the enemy, what would then become of you? Remember Jesus Christ, Son of God. Just think if we did not have Him as mediator with God and intercessor on our side! Let Him win you through His Holy Spirit. To that end employ His precious word. Do not be afraid to go before the altar of the Lord when the marriage takes place. The Lord be with you and bless you. Amen.

Gustaf Collin

Christine Bloom



John Gabrielson Rose



Jesus Sade:
"Låten barnen komma till mig och förmenen dem icke, ty sådana höra Guds rike till." Luc. 18:16.
Agnes, bli en jesu vän!
Jesus för dig till himmelen.
G. A. Stenberg.

Dop-Attest.

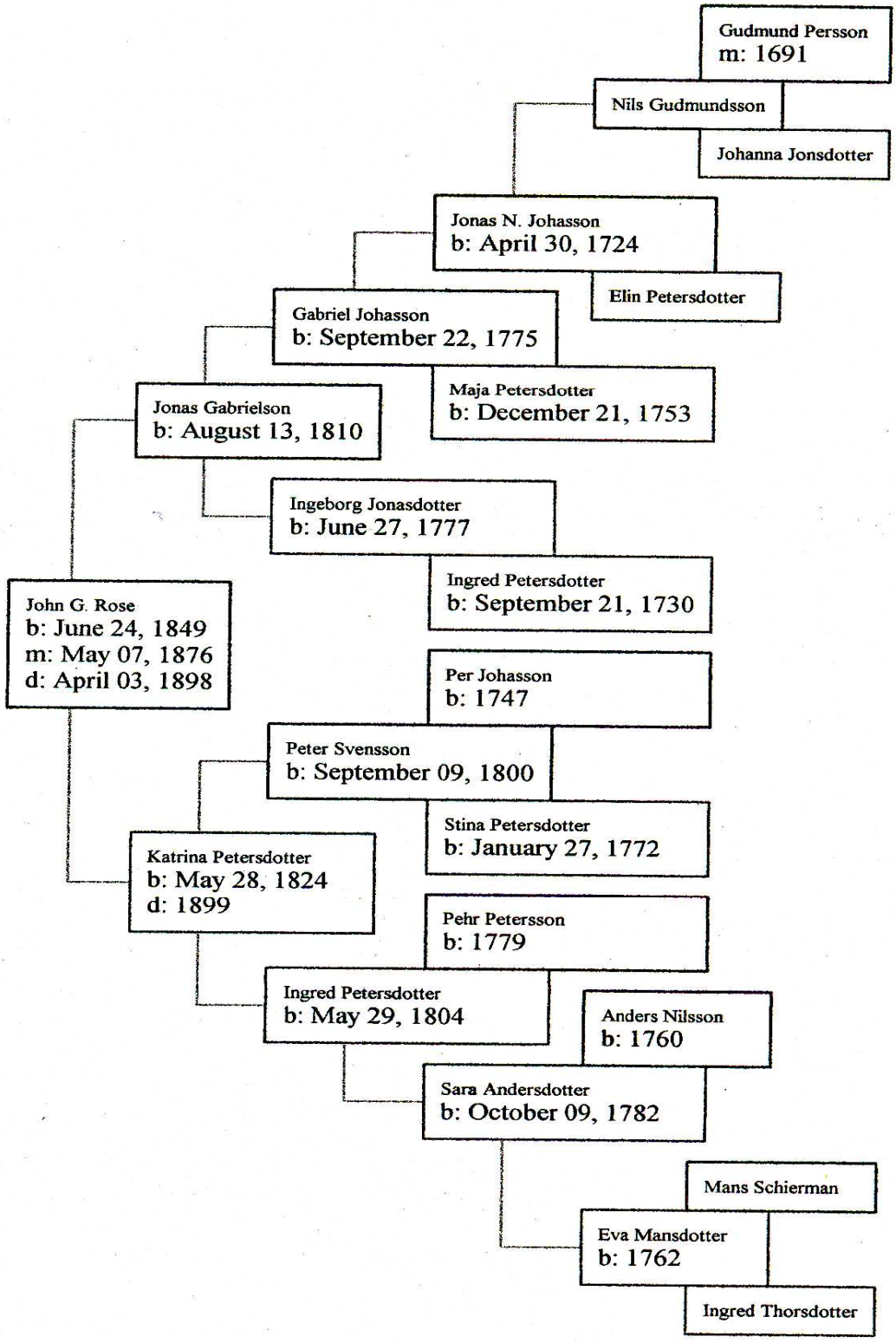
Härmed intygas,
att Mr John A. Rose
och H.H. Amanda Christina Rose's
dotter född i Maine Mills, Minne.
den 29de dagen i Juli månad 1885
blef af mig denna dag
döpt i Guds,
Fadrens och Sonens och den Helige Andes Namn,
hvarvid barnet erhöll namnet:
Agnes Catharina.
Fadder:
P. Manson
Hust. Hanna Manson

Maine Mills den 23d Aug. 1885
G. A. Stenberg.
Pastor

Utgifven af J.E. Stohlmann, Nº 120 Chatham St, NewYork.

Baptism of Christine's daughter Agnes Katrina Rose
Born July 29, 1885 – died August 12, 1886. Christine lost many children.

Ancestors of John Gabrielson Rose



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The Gabrielson-Rose Family Story by Laura T. Rose, Written February 28, 1964

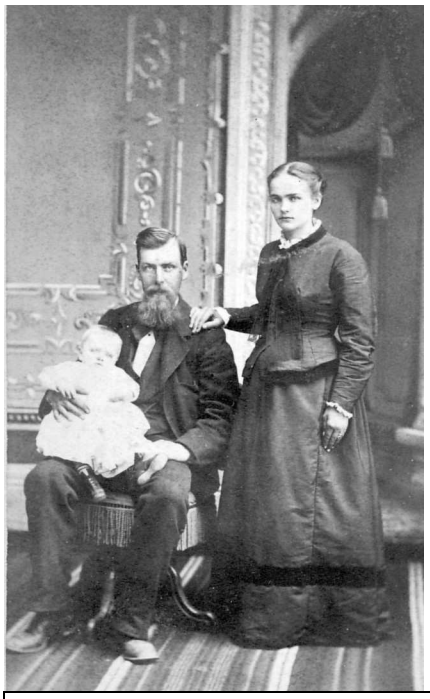
Jonas Gabrielson (b. 1810) and wife **Katrina Petersdotter** (1824 – 1899) with five year old son Johannes (later known as John Rose) came to Minnesota from Sweden in 1854 by way of sailboat to Boston; from Boston by train to Chicago; from Chicago to the St. Croix River and from there up the river by steamboat to Marine Mills. When grandfather got there, he bought his land about seven miles north of Marine by a little lake from the U.S. government for $5.00 an acre. Anton had the deed, which was signed by President Buchanan.

As I remember hearing it, grandma did not want to come, but a wife in those days obeyed her husband. Grandpa did not own any land in Sweden, but her family did. Her family seems to have been at least financially comfortable. The family had also held a parish office for generations up to her father's time, which would indicate some social standing. Grandma had taken a step down socially when she married Jonas Gabrielson. Maybe that had something to do with their leaving Sweden a few years later. The main reason, no doubt, was economic. Småland, where they lived, was a poor province. It was beautiful with its lakes, stones and woods, but it was not generous to its poor and to its landless people.

Two stories that grandma used to tell us grandchildren bring this out. One story was about the peas in the pea soup. In Småland the peas kept calling "Here am I, where are you? Here am I, where are you?" (Swedish: Har ar jag, var ar du?) Down in fertile Scene's soup, the peas keep saying "Move over!" (Swedish: Maka dig!) Another story that brought out Småland´s poverty told what the workers on a big estate claimed that their dinner bell said when it called them: "Bla valling, sur sil!" (Blue milk soup and sour herring!) Grandma brought out the bell rhythm as she told it. Like most translations do, these stories lose much in the telling. We children spoke Swedish in the home to our elders as long as grandma lived with us, so we could enjoy her story telling.

Grandpa Gabrielson worked or rented here.

Grandma did not talk much about Sweden, and father was only five years old when they came here; he did not remember much about it. Perhaps we children would rather hear about the log house and Indian days that came after they came to Minnesota.



John Gabrielson Rose, Christine and Anton

Their way from Sweden to America was hard. They came across the Atlantic in a sailing vessel. That was cheaper than by steamboat in those days. It took them eight weeks. They brought their own food for the voyage. There were neither canned goods nor refrigeration to use in those days. The ship served them soup once a day. They had baked roasted loaves of bread with a hole in the middle through which a pole was put to hang them up to dry before they left, so the bread would keep during the voyage. What else they brought with them to eat I do not remember hearing, but they must have been very hungry to eat it by the eighth week. We have some things they brought with them: a pewter tankard, cookie iron that was made for use in the fireplace and called "god radsjarn" (English: "iron of plenty"), an interesting well-made small chest which grandpa used here as a tool chest and which I use for serving things, a copper coffee pot, two small attractive wooden containers with covers (one small round one grandma used to hold buttons, and the other made to hold butter), a large Swedish Bible with old type of print and pictures and brass clasps. Sometimes grandpa let us look at its pictures. They also brought a letter from their parish pastor for reference as to character and church membership.

The first log house that they built when they got their land was crude; the second one built two years later on the knoll facing their little lake still stands and is lived in. It has been sided and painted, and it does not look like a log house. The little lake has been drained away. Lakes must have made this part of Minnesota look like their home province, Småland, and like home to them. (Note: The location of these log houses is five miles north of Marine).

Those early years must have been very hard. Grandma was homesick for Sweden and her family. Often she was alone in the wilderness with her five-year old son, Johannes (nicknamed "Hannie") when grandpa did part-time work at the Marine Saw Mill. He was on one of the big log rafts that carried lumber (or only logs?) to St. Louis, Missouri. He was 44 years old when they came to America, and grandma was 30 years old. In 1858 a daughter, Johanna, was born. Two children had been buried in Sweden.

Stories that I heard would give some idea of that early pioneer home. Indians would walk into grandma's kitchen without knocking, sit down on the floor and wait for dinner to be ready. Grandma was afraid of them. Sometimes they would bring her venison. On Sunday afternoons when Swedish neighbors met at grandpa's for worship, Indians might be looking in through the windows. No doubt they were wondering what it was all about.

The Chippewa Indians in this area were friendly, but the settlers were afraid during the Sioux uprising in 1862 during the Civil War that Fort Snelling soldiers could not stop them before they reached Marine and beyond. They also feared that the Chippewa might turn against them and join the Sioux in their massacring white settlers. Most of the able-bodied white men were off fighting in the Civil War, the Fort Snelling Garrison was small, and the men not off to war were organized into a Home Guard in Marine. During the nights, when the men were on duty, the women in Marine would hide in the cornfield; they thought it was safer than in their houses. Indians would most likely attack the houses first.

During the Civil War Grandpa was a "Union" and "Lincoln" man. He had seen slavery on his voyage on the log raft down to St. Louis and, no more than Lincoln had, did he like it. Besides, these pioneers were nationally minded; the United States had permitted them to come and had sold them their good land. They came before Minnesota was a state, so their loyalty was to the United States which was now their country. The only time grandpa was ever known to have been intoxicated was when celebrating Lincoln's second election. He had been electioneering for him. Grandpa was fifty years old, beyond the draft age and too old for soldiering.

Swedish "newcomers" continued to come after grandpa did. Those Swedes already here had written to their friends and kin back in Sweden urging them to come to their wonderful Minnesota with its plenty of good and cheap land. One man wrote this to convince them what a rich land it was: "So rich that pigs run around in the woods already roasted, even having a knife stuck into them ready to cut a slice!" Good land

or not, roasted pigs or not, at that time grandma was very thankful for the half cup of milk a day her neighbor gave her for the baby. It took years to create a prosperous community out of their wilderness.

When there were "newcomers" to Marine on the St. Croix River steamboats, the Swedes already here took care of them until they could get their bearings. Henry Otis, part Indian, had learned how to speak Swedish and would meet them as they landed. He asked about their families, about neighbors left in Sweden and made them welcome as a fellow Swede would. When told that he was one of those Indians that they had dreaded, they found it hard to believe. Otis had his fun, but it must have taken away some of that fear of the Indians and the wilderness.

Ingred, hustru of Peter Swenson 1804-1899

Often the "newcomers" were sick from their long, hard journey to Minnesota. Grandma told of having her floors covered by sick immigrants whom she had taken into her home to feed and care for.

The isolation of the early homes is brought out in the story of grandpa's breaking the Sabbath. One Saturday morning, as he thought, he was busy chopping wood down by the lake. Grandma was busy with the baking and cooking for Sunday. Britta Holcomb saw him from across the lake and called out sharply, "Jonas! Jonas! What are you doing on the Lord's day?" Jonas, being a devout churchman, stopped chopping wood and went in to tell his wife how they had mixed up the days. I hope she let her bread finish baking! With trails instead of roads few people came their way. Of course there was no daily newspaper or telephone to help keep their days straight. No wonder they lost track of them. As for keeping up with the outside world, when they or their neighbors went to Marine for supplies or work, they passed on any little news that they heard. Most likely grandpa took the church weekly, but I never heard them mention it if he did. Grandpa could both read and write. Grandma could read but whether she could write, I do not know. It was not thought necessary for girls to learn how when she was a child.

More and more settlers came, fields were opened, crops raised, roads made, church and school started. This all took time.

In 1856 grandma's father, Peter Swenson, and her mother and three brothers came to Minnesota from Sweden and bought land near them. A sister, Maja Lisa, had come with her husband before 1854 when grandpa had come here. Grandma did not say much about Maja Lisa to me, but she still seemed bitter against her sister's husband whom she accused of abusing her sister. She thought his hardness and overwork caused Maja Lisa's unhappiness, T.B. and early death. Maja Lisa's family would have helped her when they came to Minnesota, but she had not let them know of the conditions. Evidently, she had grandma's kind of stiff backbone and pride. Anton said two of her sons became successful lawyers in Duluth. The third son had an unhappy life as I faintly remember hearing, but how or why I do not know. Their father remarried, and we visited in this home with "Mary i Skea" as we said it. "Skea" was the name of the John Monson farm (no relation to Pehr Monson, Aunt Johanna's husband).

Two of grandma's brothers served in the Union Army during the Civil War. The older, Gustav, was drafted; the younger, too young to enlist, ran away from home and somehow managed to enlist. Estelle says they were both in the Andersonville Prison. That sounds likely because both came home in a very bad physical condition and did not live very long after that. The older one, Gustav, married Inga Gabrielson (daughter of Swen Gabrielson, grandpa's brother), and they started their farm home next to that of his father's, Peter Swenson's. They had two children who died, one at two years and one as an infant. Gustav died of tuberculosis in 1873. I am not even sure of the younger son's name and only know that he was not well when he came back from the Civil War.

Great-grandfather Swenson evidently thought two sons in the army was enough. He tried his best to keep the youngest son, John, out of it. He paid the "bounty" that got another man to take John's place, and then he sent him to visit Sweden thinking the war would be over when he came back. It was not over, and John was drafted but not in time to get into active service.

I do not remember this Peter Swenson. The memory of Great-Grandmother Swenson (Gamlamormor) is that of a sweet, wide awake old lady 95 years old. She lived with her son, John, the last years of her life. John's daughter, Ida, kept her room and her spotless. The room was light and sunny as I remember it, and so was great-grandmother. There was a small chest by her chair, and she could always find something

(coin, candy, or an apple) in it for us children when we came to see her, which was not often. Seven miles was quite far in those days. When I came into her room one day, she was sitting talking to God as if chatting to a friend beside her. To her, He was a good friend. She died in 1899 a month before her daughter, Grandmother Gabrielson (just twenty years younger) died.

Great Uncle John Swenson married Inga Holcomb, a neighbor's daughter. The only one left in 1963 of their big family is Ida who is at the Chisago City Lutheran Home for the Aged. She must be in her 80's, but she neither looks nor acts like it. Uncle John was a big man with a deep voice, not fat but tall and broad. I remember how he would bend his head when he came through our kitchen door. There wasn't a need to but a habit, I guess. All of his children with the exception of Louise were larger than average. I remember mother saying as I was growing up "Soon you will be as big as the Swenson girls!". I do not know anything about grandchildren.

Grandpa Gabrielson's brother, Swen, and his wife, Elin (born May 7, 1850, Hofmantorp, Småland, Sweden), also came to Minnesota from Sweden in 1856. Two children came with them, Inga and Peter Johan. I do not know anything about Peter Johan. There was another son, Frank, maybe born in Minnesota, whom we knew quite well. He and father were good friends as well as cousins. His wife, Mary, worked for mother before she married Frank. There were several children; Harland Gabrielson of Marine is his grandson. Anna and I have met them at their Gabrielson reunions at Harland's home.

Ingeborg Lisa Gabrielson was the cousin who married Gustav Swenson. He was nine years her senior; she was only eighteen. They had a son, Albert, and a daughter, Amanda, die in infancy. After he died in 1873 of T.B., she married Carl Olson, a recent immigrant from Sweden. They stayed on in Inga's home farm in Prairie Hollow until they retired to a new home in Scandia on New Year's Eve, 1915. Nine children were born on the farm of about the same ages as the John G. Rose's children. We visited that home quite often. I loved the kindly Carl Olson and would run to meet him when he brought his grain to father's mill. His Ellen was my age. Later Lydia was at Gustavus when Anna and Estelle were there. Inga and Carl's children were: Nels Alfred 1877-1953; Amanda Louise Olson Vadman 1879-1937; Ellen who died in infancy; Ellen Theresa 1883-1900; Emma Evaline 1885-1936; Anton who died in infancy; Lydia Victoria 1889-; Alice Emelia 1891-; Selma Maria 1895-1900. Carl Olson died in 1918; Inga continued living in her home near Scandia until the spring of 1927. Inga died August 26, 1927. She is buried in the Elm Church Cemetery, Scandia, Minnesota, beside Carl Olson and two daughters, Ellen and Selma. Of the children, only Lydia and Alice are still living. A grandson and son of Alice and Peter Nelson, Wendell Nelson, is now the owner of the Gabrielson farm.

Coming back to Katrina and Jonas Gabrielson: I do not know much about the years when the two children, Johannes and Johanna, grew up in the home. There must have been a country school by the time they were ready for it and a church. Johanna was confirmed in what became Scandia Lutheran Church (Elm). They sent to Sweden for the black silk kerchief which Swedish custom called for at a girl's first communion. Lutheran pastors would come to hold services, bury the dead, etc., until a congregation could be formed. One of the pastors wanted father to study for the ministry, but grandpa said "no". He needed his only son on the farm. He did not keep him long. Father was nine years older than his sister which would make a difference at that age.

When John brought his young bride, Christine Bloom, to his nearby farm in 1876, she was Johanna's age. The two became good companions. Johanna needed a sister, and mother missed her big Bloom family when she left them for her new home. The two would hitch up mother's white horse and buggy and off they would go. Mother told me that father was very patient with his young, irresponsible wife. He was nine years older, and he had been her teacher. Perhaps that helped! Grandma Gabrielson must have been patient, too. Mother spoke of how kind and understanding she was to her when Grandma Bloom died two years after mother married.

Johanna was the outdoor type. She loved horses; when grandpa would not let her drive the farm team, she trained and drove a pair of steers around the farm. Years later after her marriage to Peter Monson, she owned her own horse and buggy. Nellie was a beautiful horse, smart and lively, and so was Johanna. It took Aunt Johanna to manage her, but even she did not always find that easy. I remember riding with Aunt Johanna to Great-Grandmother Swenson's funeral. Nellie objected to the slow pace of the funeral procession and having the teams ahead and behind her so close. We soon got out into a field, and then we took our place last in the line instead of with the family where we belonged. Even so, we turned out into a field or two along the way. Nellie was still unruly when we started home from the cemetery; some colored circus placards on the roadside bushes and on the road gave her an excuse to jump aside from or over them. Not that she was afraid, but they gave a good excuse for her kind of fun. Aunt Johanna, hat askew, held

onto the reins and muttered through tight lips, "Just you wait!" (vanta du bara!) until we reached the bottom of the steep, crooked Scandia hills. There as Nellie slowed down, her fun over, Aunt Johanna picked up the whip and said "you want to run, Nellie, now go!". Over the "Vasa prairie" we went! I got home to Grandma Gabrielson's long before the rest of the family did. She had not been well enough to go to her mother's funeral. She was surprised to see me so soon and alone; when I told her that I rode with Aunt Johanna she said, "I might have known it". She always worried when Aunt Johanna drove Nellie, but Aunt Johanna always managed somehow. How dearly she did love that Nellie! Grandma Gabrielson died two months after her mother; our beloved "Gamla mormor" died.

Father must have been a lively teenager. There were country dances to go to, but he did not take his young sister with him. He enjoyed telling how he had chivaree'd his friend and his bride by himself making them think there was a big crowd. He used a gun and sleigh bells - dropping into a ploughed furrow when they came out only to repeat the racket when they had gone back into the house puzzled!

Farming did not seem to be for him, and he went off to a St. Paul Business School. It was there that he changed his name to Rose. Gabrielson was not a family name as we think of one. Had they stayed in Sweden, he would have been John Jonasson as his father was Jonas Gabrielson in Sweden, and his mother was Katrina Petersdotter (daughter) in Sweden. When the other students began to speak of him as the man at Rose's (former student) desk, then to Rose, he had his name legally changed to Rose. Many of his friends already called him that, and the name Gabrielson did not mean much to him. Rose was short and easy to say and write. Following the business school, he taught country school, married, sold farm machinery, and about 1880 went into business in Marine Mills. I have met two men besides mother and Uncle David who had been his pupils. He was the country school master of his day and stressed reading, writing and arithmetic. When he played school with his children, it was spelling and mental arithmetic. One word that had evidently been used in their old spelling bees that we enjoyed was "phthisic". We didn't know what it meant, but I can still spell it! He carried David on his back through the snow to the spelling bees. One of the men told me how father held the little ones on his knees as he taught them their ABC's. Nothing was said of the traditional cane that all stories of the old schoolmasters tell about. Six-footer father probably did not need one. As I remember him, he had a way with children that would win their goodwill. As for discipline later in our home, when father quietly said "do", we did without question. I don't remember him spanking or speaking a cross word. Severe or not, at least one pupil loved him - mother. He boarded at Grandpa Bloom's while teaching in Langasjo. Christine was not quite eighteen when she left with father for his farm near Goose Lake. Father used to tease her by saying that he fell in love with her mother, but since he couldn't have her, he took mother! Be that as it may, the two of them made a very happy home for their children with plenty of fun, discipline and love in it.

We were not a demonstrative family, and I cannot remember him ever kissing or caressing me. As a child I remember climbing all over him. When he came along and yanked my braid and called me "Moster Mjolgumpa", I knew it was a sign of love. Whatever my nickname meant (some kind of old woman), I would glow with satisfaction while I made a face at him. After father died, Anton would sometimes use that nickname as father did; it was a mixture of both fun and affection.

9, 1935. ST. PAUL

Gable's Mill at Marine-on-the-St. Croix
Being Dismantled After 83 Years Service

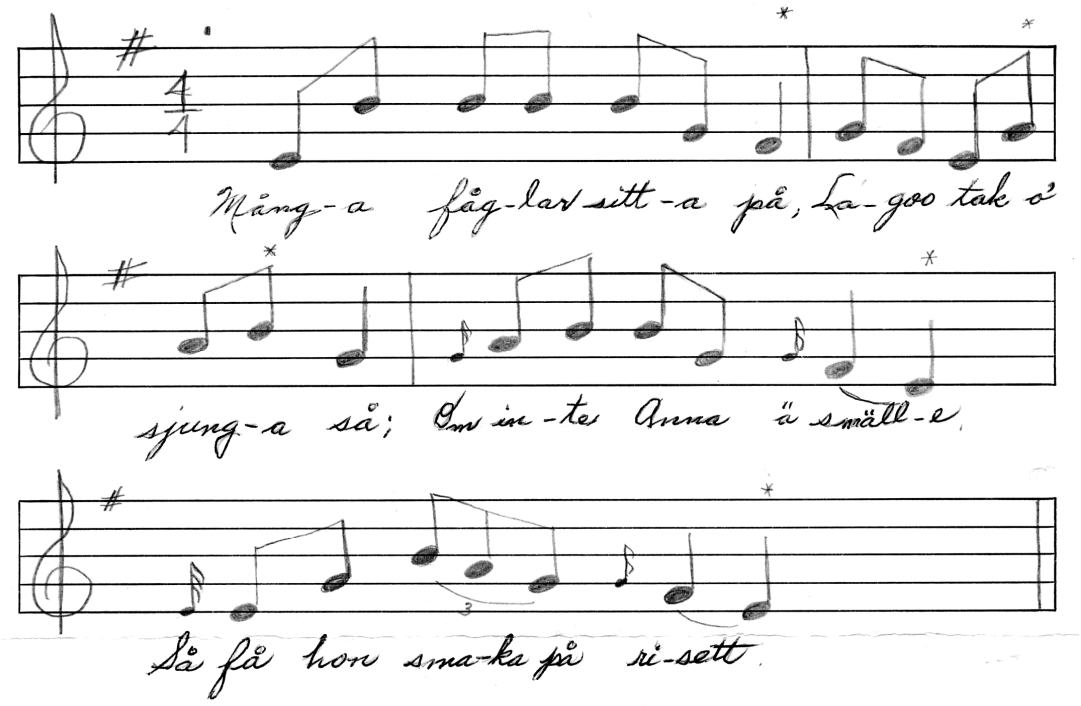
When father left the farm to go into business in Marine, he went into partnership with Magnuson and Schmidt who owned a general store. He sold farm machinery; I think he did that before going to Marine. At least an old man told me that father had the first threshing machine in his part of the country. "I know," he said, "because I helped to pull it out of a mud hole". Later he had shares in the Henry Olson

store across the street. About 1889 he bought out Magnuson and Schmidt. I remember that because one of my schoolmates told me that now I could get all of the candy I wanted; we hurried down to get some. To my surprise, father said no! At home we always treated; evidently, the store was not like home.

About 1880 he bought shares in and later all of the flour mill. It was a four-story frame building run by water power with which went the land controlling the water, creeks and dams. A wooden millrace carried the water to the mill. Until the Minneapolis flourmills were built with their better machinery making better flour and grain elevators put up which were more convenient for the farmers, our mill did very well. Farmers as far away as fifteen miles came to grind their grain and sell their flour surplus. I remember a line of their lumber wagons (or bobsleds) a couple of blocks long waiting their turns to unload. Often some farmers had to stay overnight. In 1880 Father was doing well as a Marine Mills businessman; he built the big "House by the Mill"; Grandpa and Grandma came to live with us.

Grandpa took what Swedes called "undantag"; he signed all his property to my father for which he and grandma were to live with us and be cared for the rest of their lives. Grandpa was 73 and ready to retire, but grandma was only 59 and must have found it very hard to give up her own home and independence to move into one room in someone else's home. She was a proud woman not used to accepting favors but to giving them. If you had only seen her as she marched up the church aisle on Sunday. Her back was as stiff as a ramrod, dressed in a basque and full skirt, a silk kerchief or hood on her head, and her psalm book with her handkerchief and a bit of lavender on it held by both hands in front of her. You could have seen where the expression "stolid Swede" came from. Our lovable, far from stolid grandma just did not show through in public. She refused to pose as anything but a Swedish woman, and she kept the Swedish dress, language and traditions which was easy to do because her neighbors were Swedish immigrants too. Her church was Swedish, and there were even Swedish clerks when she came to Marine to barter butter and eggs for what she needed. We said that her first English word stopped her from ever learning to speak English. When son John came to her on one of these early days, proud of the English word that a neighbor boy had taught him, she helped him to remember it by repeating it over and over. They wanted to show his father when he came from town how he was learning to speak their new country's language. Grandfather had heard enough English in town to know that word. To our devout grandmother's horror, she had helped her son to swear all day! After that she left it to grandfather to provide what English they might need.

By the "undantag", grandma was entitled to her room and board; it had been paid for but being what she was, she would always insist upon earning it as well. She washed dishes, did the mending, etc. Her greatest service was being a wonderful and permanent babysitter. Mother almost always had a new baby and a big household to care for and needed someone to care for the other children. To us she was a second mother to go to with cuts, tears or other needs for help. We also went to her just for comfort or to be rocked. I cannot remember her ever being cross, but she did have two songs that we did not like which she would softly sing when needed. One was "lipity grin" (crybaby), and the other was about the many birds on the barn roof singing what would happen to Laura if she was naughty. They were more effective than "cross words."



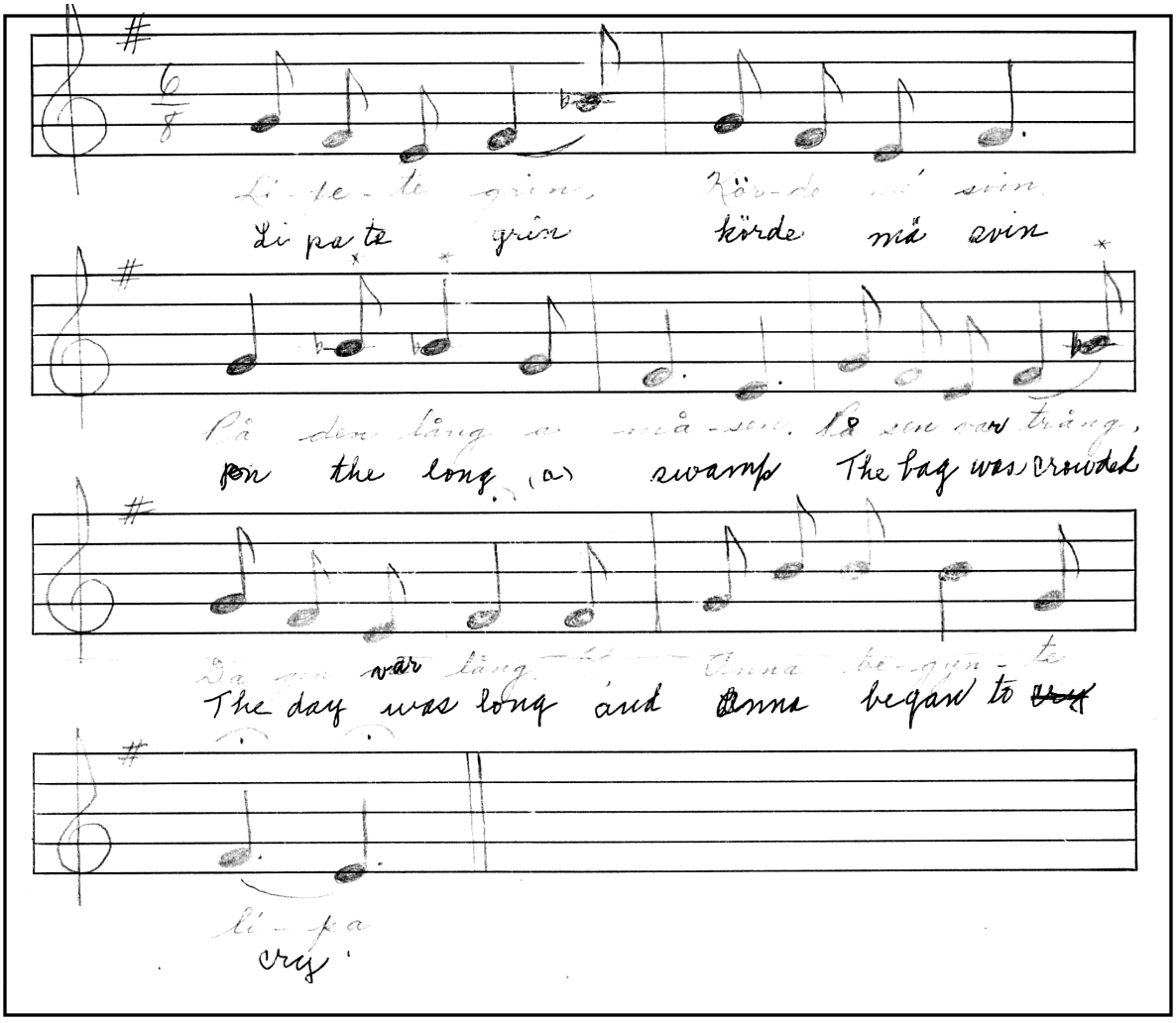
One of Grandma Gabrielson's songs while caring for the Rose children. Note: Notes are quarter steps. Sing a quarter step below the tone recorded. Lucy Nulton set it to music to the tune grandma used as remembered by Laura. Done at E.C.T.C., Greenville, North Carolina. "Many birds sitting on the barn roof singing: If Anna is not good, she will taste of the switch." It was softly sung and was very effective!

Grandpa Gabrielson was quite old as I remember him sitting in his chair smoking, fly swatter in hand or reading one of his religious books. He was not the talkative kind, and we did not go to him for entertainment. He was kind as far as I remember him, but we had better not mess up his long neat woodpiles! He died in 1895. Grandma lived until 1899, our last year in the "House by the Mill" as we always speak of it.

Christine, Jennie Monson, Henning, Marian, and Estelle (Estella). Anna "Pete" is on the right.

Aunt Johanna loved the old farm home; when her parents gave it up to live with us, she must have felt lost. She would be at our house at times as I remember. Her daughter, Jennie, says that she did housework in the city for a time. Then she married Pehr Monson who was our miller the last years we owned the mill. When we sold it, they moved to a farm near Square Lake which they had bought. Pehr Monson was not a farmer but Aunt Johanna was. She loved horses, gardening, etc; we loved to visit them down there. Aunt Johanna was one of those women who could look very stern; you could not budge her in a matter of right and wrong. She was always ready to do things for others. Certain poor families, when they found firewood, butter or maybe feed for their chickens at the back door some morning, knew Mrs. Monson had been there. She had a good sense of humor, and it was always fun to visit with her. Of her four children only one, Jenny Henderson of Minneapolis, is left. We all missed her when she died in 1915.

Grandma Gabrielson's "Cry Baby" Song


Li pa te grin körde må svin
på den lång a - må - sen. Så sne var trång,
on the long (a) swamp The bag was crowded
The day was long and Anna began to
li - pa
cry

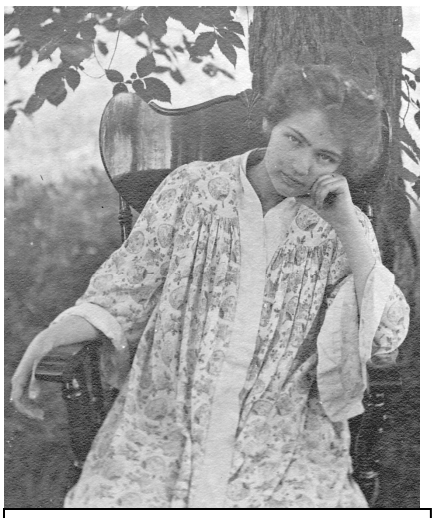
The Rose children did not like it, and it was quite effective for grandma's purpose! This music is by Lucy Nulton (E.C.T.C.). She used her violin and wrote it as Laura sang it. "Cry baby! Herding pigs on the long swamp. The bog was crowded; the day was long and Laura began to cry! (whine)" The notes marked * are sung as quarter steps-smaller intervals than can be played on the piano or can be accurately recorded. The song can be accurately played on the violin. To indicate these quarter steps she inserted the extra line. The tones * are between B flat and B. For the piano they must be written on the B line. (This is Laura Rose's writing.)

The happy, prosperous years did not stay very long with the Roses in the "House by the Mill". We children are apt to think of the years there as very happy, but Mother no doubt had some of her hardest years there as well as some of her happiest. There were eleven funerals from that house in the seventeen years that we lived there. Only four of the nine children in it were left in 1900. Anton and Jennie were born on the Goose Lake farm before 1883. After Father died in 1898, Mother sold the mill at a heavy loss. When we left the "House by the Mill", we were free of debt, had enough money to buy a small house, a very small income from pasture land that she kept and some village lots to sell now and then when necessary. How Mother managed it all, I do not understand. She did what had to be done somehow.

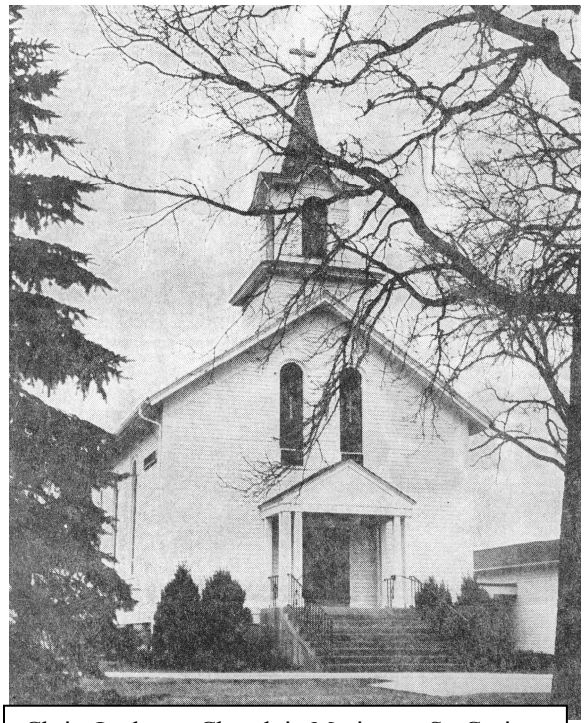
Willie Rose died at 9 years and 10 months while jumping logs in the river.

I was fourteen years old the last year that father lived; old enough to share its gloom and worry. On Christmas Eve the year-old baby became suddenly very sick. Scrofula settled in his eyes and mother took him to St. Paul for daily treatment by an eye specialist. While she was gone, father's health worsened, but he would not have her leave the baby and come home until a week before he died in 1898.

(***Scrofula:***
A form of tuberculosis affecting the lymph nodes, especially of the neck, that is most common in children and is usually spread by unpasteurized milk from infected cows.
Clarification from www.answers.com)



Lillian Rose died at 14
July 9, 1893 – Aug 9, 1907



Christ Lutheran Church in Marine on St. Croix. Both building and congregation date their beginnings to April of 1872.

Mother went back to care for the baby after that. Jennie and Anton were home only for father's funeral. Grandma and I had been keeping house. I think mother's sister, Ida, was with us part of the time. After six weeks of treatment, the doctors gave up trying to help the baby, and mother came home. One day in July as I held him, he raised his head and looked about for the first time since he had become ill. The scrofula had moved to his throat, and he died in a few days. A year later grandma died.

It was an empty feeling house when mother finally sold the property and with her six children moved to the "House on the Hill". A new chapter in the Rose family history was begun. We still loved the old "House by the Mill", and it hurt to see it and the old mill growing old and begin to look uncared for. After some time the big mill building was cut off down to the basement and made into a boat factory which burned down. When the "House by the Mill" burned down in 1961, we felt as if part of our family had died, and that part of our family life was over. We learned to love our new home. Like for other families, it became a home of children growing up, getting educations, weddings, deaths, grandchildren and

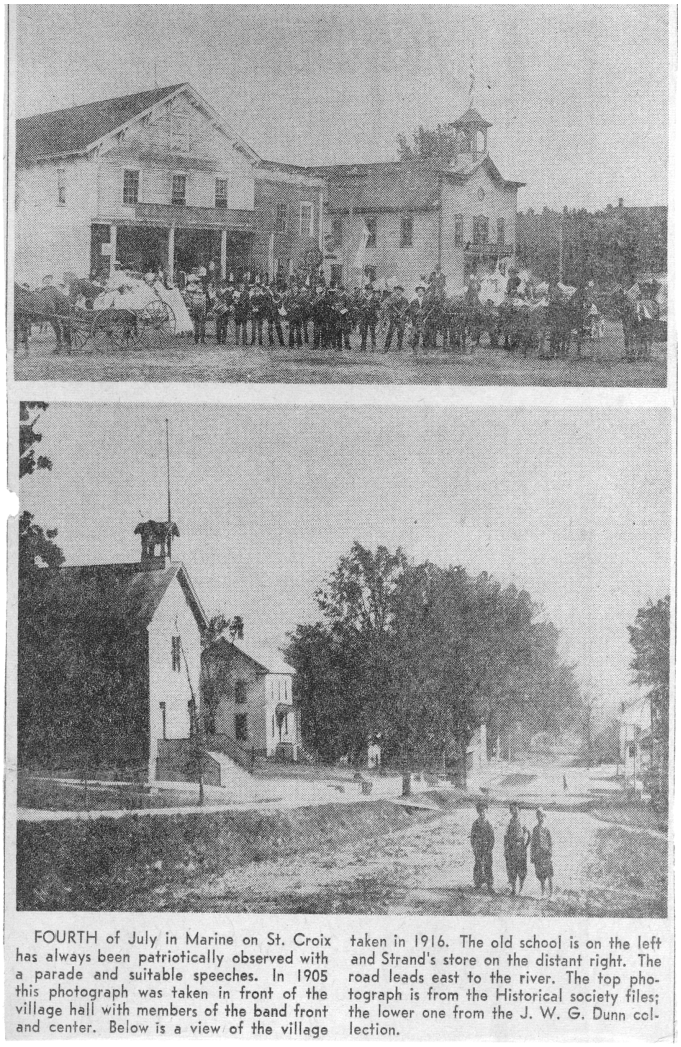
even great-grandchildren. Like other families except that our own family is always more important to us who have been a part of it. Mother died in 1946. Only three of those who came from the "House by the Mill" to this small "House on the Hill" are left, but there are many Roses by various names — mothers and fathers, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren--so the three sisters left still feel as a part of a big Rose family and not alone. Only one Rose lives in the small "House on the Hill", but there are so many reminders in it of the past that one can feel or imagine mother there with her chuckles. If her spirit can come, may she feel at home and be pleased with the Roses here. When any of these Roses come to visit, it is as if they are her children coming home for a visit. Maybe because we love them so, we are proud of our family and its history.

Gustavus Adolphus College
Standing: Laura Rose, Paul Bloom, Estelle Rose, Esther LeVine
Seated: (unknown), Christine, Winnie Bloom. Anna "Pete" Rose is in front.
Christine was the "House Mother".

Laura Rose retired to the "House on the Hill." Jewel and Joe LeVine (House of Wilhelm) owned the home in 2003.

The following information came from Joe LeVine (House of Wilhelm): John Rose had the village build the red bridge because they were developing the area. John Rose and Magnuson had a store here and sold furniture. People would bring their cows to graze in Rose's pasture. They didn't belong to the Roses to my knowledge. They would come up and milk the cows, and some of them sold the milk. Henning built some dams, so they had trout in the trout ponds. The Roses had all that land because they needed water for the mill.

"I have my roots here. I had to come home"—Laura Rose

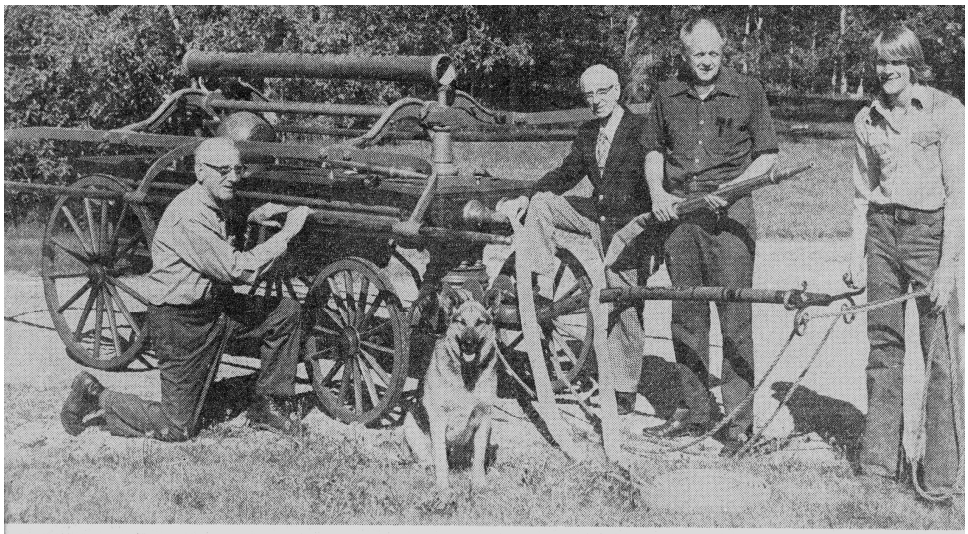


FOURTH of July in Marine on St. Croix has always been patriotically observed with a parade and suitable speeches. In 1905 this photograph was taken in front of the village hall with members of the band front and center. Below is a view of the village taken in 1916. The old school is on the left and Strand's store on the distant right. The road leads east to the river. The top photograph is from the Historical society files; the lower one from the J. W. G. Dunn collection.

Above: "I have my roots here. I had to come home" — Laura Rose

Some citizens of Marine instrumental in restoring the hand powered fire engine.

Man in dark coat and tie is local historian Roy Strand -- Laura's first cousin.



Citizens of Marine on St. Croix, instrumental in the renovation of an 1886 hand-pumping fire engine, pause for a moment in reflection. At far left is Ed Walquist, who served as chief of the Marine on St. Croix Volunteer Fire Department from 1925-42. Next is local historian Roy Strand, Bill Campion, his son John and their dog Dutch. Campion was responsible for getting the engine back in working order and said it will be used in the village's Fourth of July celebration.

—Staff Photo by Buzz Magnuson

Obituary by The Reverend Edward Peterson

Amanda Christine Rose Nee' Bloom

Again a pioneer of this village and community has been called from home and loved ones, no longer to sojourn among the inhabitants of earth, but to enjoy the eternal promises of Him in Whom she had and did Believe, these more than four score years.

And so, as the Sabbath day of October 6th had come and gone, high hopes of overcoming a siege of pneumonia were seemingly assured, night had lowered over all and everyone at Bethesda Home. He in whom she believed and trusted, came and took His weary and tired child to Himself. So departed the spirit of Amanda Christine Rose who had attained the high earthly age of 88 years, 3 months, 15 days.

Mrs. Rose was born in the Town of Franconia (Swede Lake), Chisago County, June 22, 1858, one of 12 children, 8 boys and 4 girls. She was baptized and in due time instructed in the Lutheran faith, and verified the promises made in Holy Baptism, confessing her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with her own lips and of her own decision. In this environment she grew to womanhood and was united in marriage to John Gabrielson Rose on May 7, 1876. God blessed this union with children: Anton Richard of New Jersey; Jennie-Mrs. Seashore of Minneapolis; Laura of Greenville, North Carolina; Anna - Mrs. Edward Leffler, Boston, Mass.; Estelle - Mrs. Henning Erickson of Stillwater; Lillian who departed this life in the late summer of 1907; William Alvin who drowned and 6 children who died in infancy. There are 9 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews many more who mourn today the kind memory of this aged sister in Israel, whose example of Christian fortitude, motherly compassion reaches out today and will continue to do so in generations growing and in turn reaching and touching other lives in the spirit of Christ her Savior. One brother, Edward Bloom, Russell Beach, Chisago City and one sister, Mrs. Emma Strand, survive. The Roses became affiliated with this Lutheran Church in the year 1882. Thus for the long years of 64 in number, the Rose family have added their bit to the life and progress of Christian influence and faithfulness to their Lord and their Christ.

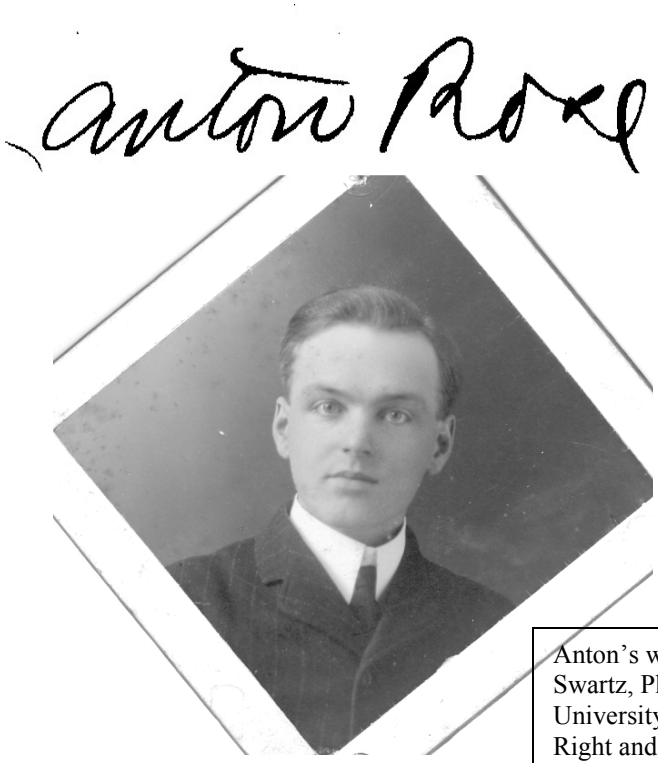
For the past few winters Mrs. Rose has had a room at the Bethesda Invalid Home, St. Paul, where she had come to feel quite at home as soon as the wintry blasts began to beat upon her home in Marine. Most gratefully did she welcome the visits by her Pastor with the Word of God. On Monday, September 9, it was my privilege to administer the Lord's Supper to her in her Marine home at her own request. The next day she left for her winter home and now, her Heavenly.

Mr. John Rose passed away in 1898, leaving his intrepid wife to carry on, her grown and growing children helping in the true pioneer spirit. Such was the spirit of that day and such was the faith, sufficient and in the spirit of a Godly presence and among friends of like spirit, nothing daunting. Truly a mother in Israel has departed this life.

Peace be to the memory of the departed mother and friend.

Lovingly Grandmother

2-22-1877 Anton Richard Rose 9-24-1948



Jennie and Anton

Anton's wife Mary Swartz, Ph.D. Yale University. Right and below.

Anton (born 1877) was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1904, a Master's Degree from Yale University in 1910, and Doctor of Philosophy from Columbia University in Feb of 1913. A research chemist for several years after his graduation from Columbia, he became a captain in the Sanitary Corps of the Army in World War I, later being transferred to the Air Corps. He joined the staff of Prudential Insurance Company in 1923 and soon became Director of its Longevity Laboratories in Newark, New Jersey. There, through clinical chemistry methods, he studied causes and cures of ailments to develop the best techniques for increasing the span of life. He belonged to the American Chemical Society, the Society for Advancement of Science and the American Medical Association. He was director of the Longevity Laboratories of the Prudential Insurance Company in Newark. He died at his home at 500 Undercliff Avenue at the age of 71. He married Mary Davies Swartz on September 15, 1910. Laura Rose wrote these notes about her brother, Anton: "When brother Anton went to live in the east, he had some fixed notions about which we liked to tease him. He would never wear any but black ties and had much to say against slang, but on his first visit back to the Midwest, he not only appeared in a red tie but slang words cropped out in his conversations. Of course we enjoyed what his

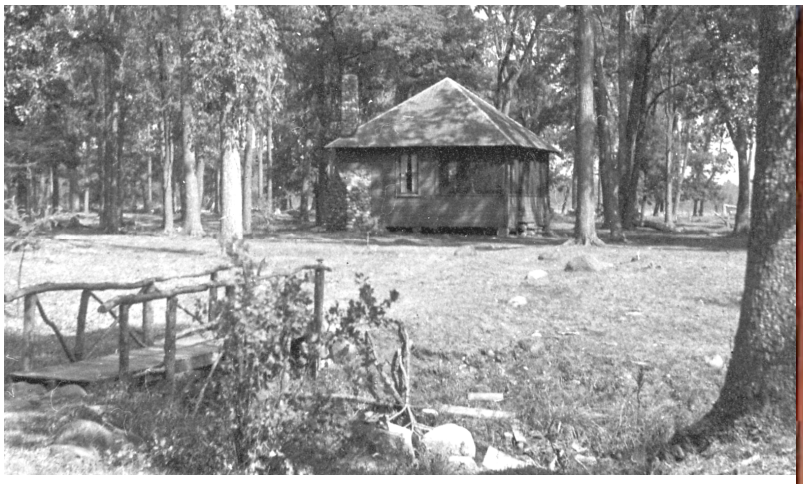
eastern "education" had done to him. When he wrote home later that he was going to marry a Yale Ph.D. who was teaching at Columbia University, we were not as amused as we were concerned. We had prophesied something like it when he insisted that a high school education would be all his wife would ever have; he didn't like learned women. We need not have feared. We have been grateful to Anton for making her one of the Rose family."

Mary Davies Swartz was born in Newark, Ohio, to Judge and Mrs. Hiram B. Swartz. She was a professor of nutrition at Teachers' College at Columbia University in 1920 and was the Director of the Nutrition Department. She received her Ph.D. from Yale University. She was the author of *Laboratory Handbook for Dietetics, Feeding the Family, Everyday Foods in War Times, Foundations of Nutrition* and *Teaching Nutrition to Boys and Girls*. She was active in state and national organizations and died in 1941 in Edgewater, New Jersey.

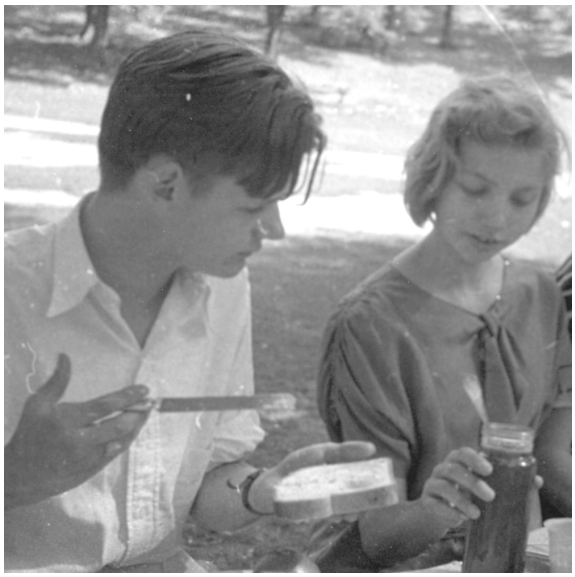
Laura Rose wrote these impressions of her sister-in-law, Mary Swartz Rose: Mary was genuinely kind and friendly. Their interests were much the same, and she was a homemaker. Not only did she make her family comfortable and create a family life, but also her
house was stamped with her personality. Another thing that stands out is her orderliness and poise. Even with work piling up, she could take time out for a friend or do a needed kindness. She had a combination of thrift and generosity. She was a very loyal person who rarely criticized people. She seemed to visit with our simple people as well as with her Columbia colleagues. Perhaps she appreciated fine quality in people wherever she found it. Estelle taught her to drive a car one summer in Marine; they would go off in a rickety old Ford to find all the lanes and by-ways with many gates for her to stop for. They had such a good time and came home with their eyes sparkling! She was a "little dynamo". Her whole body seemed to have such controlled energy, and her eyes were so alert and expressive. She was a stimulating person to have around."

At left: cousins Marian Rose (1918 – 1992) and Richard (Dick) Rose (1915 – present)

Marian and her mother Estella [or Estell(e) Rose] Erickson (1889 – 1965). Estella - also known as Nonny



Above: The Rose's "cabin" (but not Christine's main house) in Marine

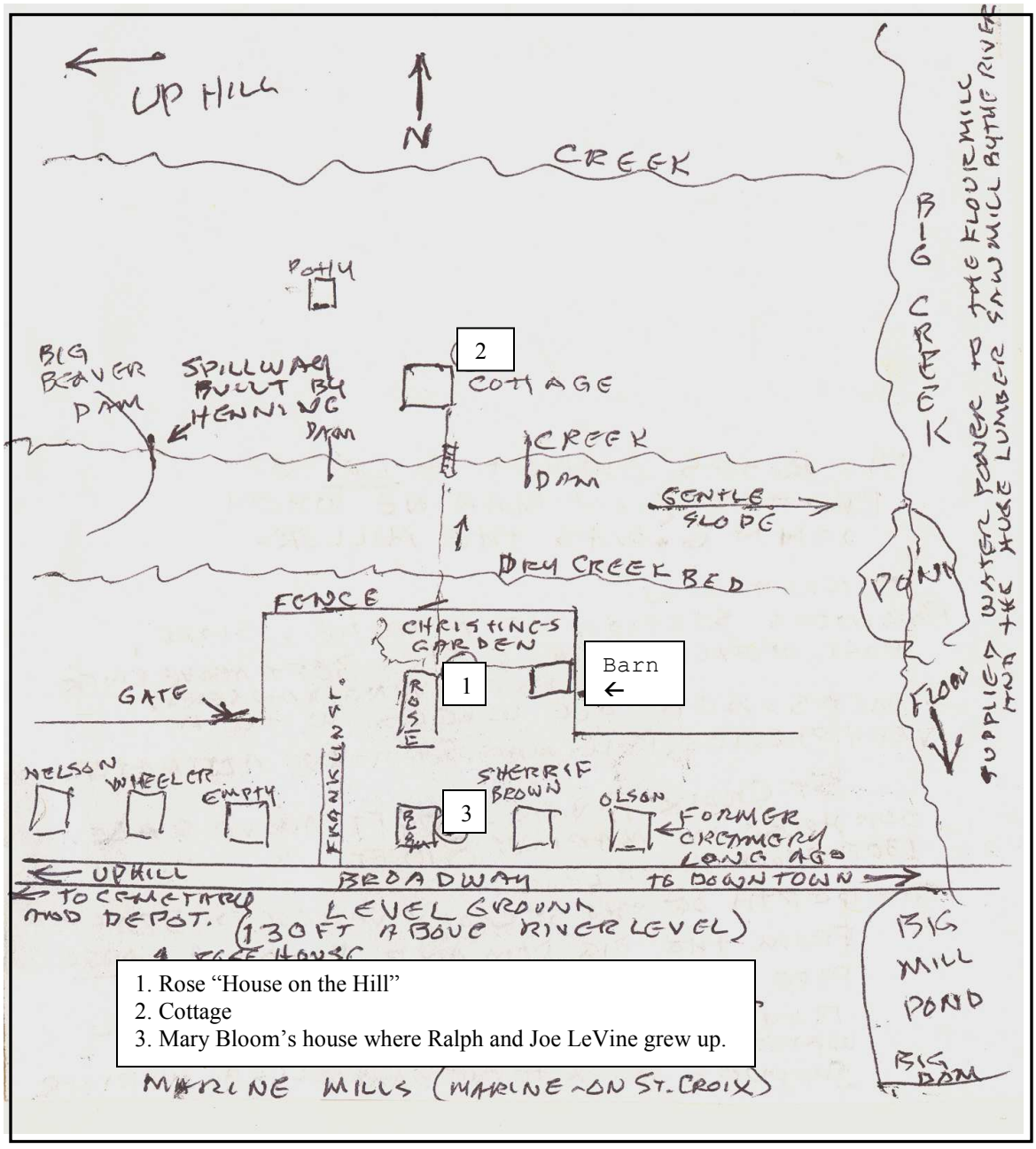


Above: Dick and Sylvia Seashore

Picture of mountain lion hung in the entry way of the Rose "cabin" pictured above. Now in Gail Anderson Sonbuchner's Monticello, house.

Your cousin Anton is wishing you and your family all the Christmas joys that can be crowded into you days!!!

Christine Bloom Rose's property in Marine - 1900's
As drawn by Ralph LeVine



Ralph LeVine's drawing of Christine Bloom Rose's property after her husband, John Rose, died in 1898 and she moved out of the "House by the Mill". (The "House by the Mill burned down in 1961 but the "House on the Hill" is still there and was owned by Laura Rose until her death in 1972; then it became the property of Cousin Joe and Jewel LeVine until Joe's death in 2003. Mary Bloom's house is also still there).

To get to the cottage, (which was there to accommodate all of Christine's summer visitors: Depart the Rose house screened in back porch and go north, walk the pathway across Christine's vegetable garden,

open the fence gate, cross a dry creek bed, cross the pasture for about 460 feet going due north, cross the bridge spanning the fast flowing Big Creek, than another 150 feet to the cottage - out in the woods. Very many cows were kept in this woods by local farmers – good grazing which kept the grass nicely mowed. The outhouse was about 75 feet northwest of the cottage. Henning Erickson, Estelle Rose's husband, built the dams so he could grow trout.

As mentioned earlier, there was a picture of a Mountain Lion in the cottage and this is how Gail Sonbuchner remembers the painting:

"I remember the mountain lion picture – which was about 3' x 1' - on the fieldstone fireplace in the Marine cabin. As a little girl, I found the eyes looking at me as I moved around. Joe LeVine found the picture in the old barn when they were taking it down because the barn had become a hazard. Joe felt that a new frame wouldn't do the picture justice and liked the pieces chiseled (eaten?) off the upper right-hand corner. I agreed with him. He kept it in his bedroom at the Marine house. The cabin is sketchy in my memory except for the ice box that we saw when we walked in the back door. It amazed me that they had to do so much work to keep something cold!"

Anton Rose, Captain, US Army Sanitary Corps. Anton writes home on a postcard (see picture postcard on left). The post card is dated, 1917 and is addressed to Anton's 2 year old son Richard. Richard was born in 1915 so I suspect his wife Mary Davies Swartz, PhD was the intended recipient. The inscription on the back of the post card is as follows:

"Richard Collin ~
This is Dad. He is a soldier. He is not militant as a rule - nor given to passionate outbursts. But he is now a soldier and very much in earnest.

He is ready to go wherever he may be sent, to do whatever is deemed necessary to by the organization that directs. He will have service interesting experiences, meet disagreeable situations, suffer hard [_____].

He has [_____] all easier tactics including being [_____] army ignorant and [_____] peoples of half our [_____] nation.

This is written by [_____] in part because it is a great [_____]- also because he is determined to do what he can that this [_____] shall not be repeated at any time under the same rules and conditions."

Four generations:
Estelle Rose Erickson, Marian Rose Anderson, Christine Bloom Rose, and three-week old twins, Carol and Gail Anderson

Christine Bloom Rose

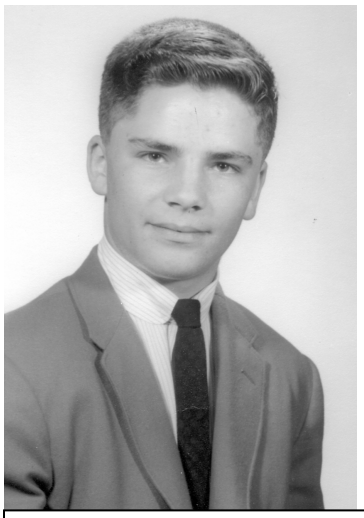
Dick Rose b. 1915

Marge and Richard (Dick)'s Wedding 10-15-1942

Richard (Rick) Rose – son of Dick Rose (at left) b. 1944

Richard (Dick) Rose, Sally Seashore, Ruth Carlson, Marian Erickson and Helen Magnuson

Richard (Dick) Collin Rose was graduated with a bachelor's degree from Middlebury College and received a master's degree in forestry from Yale University. He was also a captain in the U.S. surveyor and is a member of the Grace Congregational Church. He was active in the Rutland Lions Club and the Chamber of Commerce. Dick married Marjorie Mitchell on October 15, 1942, at the Harkness Chapel at Connecticut College in New London, Connecticut. As of 2005, Dick was still managing the Single Mountain Corp which consists of several thousand acres of woodland in central Vermont. He was a tenor in the Middlebury college Choir. **Marjorie Paine Mitchell** was graduated with a bachelor's degree from Connecticut College and was a Red Cross volunteer at Rutland Regional Medical Center for forty years. She also volunteered for community childcare for many years and was a past deaconess at the Grace Congregational United Church of Christ. Richard (Dick) and Marjorie have two children: Richard ("Rick" born 1944) and Kristine Ann Rose ("Tina" born 1948). Rick was a Viet Nam Veteran and Rick's daughter is a Veterinarian.



Above is Richard "Rick" Rose (Anton's Grandson b. 1944)

Tina, Marge, Laura and Rick Rose in Marine.

Back row: Anna "Pete", Anton, Jennie
Front row: Laura, Christine, Estelle.
Of the 14 babies born to Christine, these five are the only ones that made it to adulthood.

At right: Mary Davies Swartz Rose Ph.D. (1874 – 1941). Wife of Anton Rose and mother of baby Richard (Dick) Collin Rose (b. 1915) shown here. As of 2009, Richard Collin is still with us and is Gustaf Bloom's 3rd oldest living descendant. Also see Richard Mitchell Rose (born 1944), on this page, He is the son of Richard Collin Rose.

12-29-1879 Jennie Caroline Rose 3-12-1960

Jennie.

Jennie was born in Scandia, Minnesota. She graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. In 1903 she married August Seashore. Jennie died in White Plains, New York; funeral services were held at Wahoo, Nebraska, on March 16, 1960. Interment was in Sunrise Cemetery in Wahoo, Iowa. One of Jennie's hobbies was playing the guitar.

August T. Seashore

August was born in 1871 in Dayton, Ohio. He died in 1934 in Wahoo, Nebraska. He was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota with a B.A. and Doctor of Divinity; Augustana Theological Seminary with a B.D., D.D. August was a clergyman in the Augustana Lutheran Synod and long time president of Luther Junior College in Wahoo, Nebraska. He was once pastor of Grace Lutheran Church (circa 1906-1910) when it was located at Seven Corners, Minneapolis, Minnesota. He founded Bethany Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. This was one of the first two Swedish Lutheran Churches in Minnesota in which English was the parish language. He died in 1936 in Wahoo, Nebraska.

Former City Resident, Dies

Mrs. A. T. Seashore, 81, member of a pioneer Minnesota family and widow of a former Minneapolis Lutheran pastor, died Saturday in White Plains, N. Y., where she lived since 1947.

Services and burial were Wednesday in Wahoo, Neb.

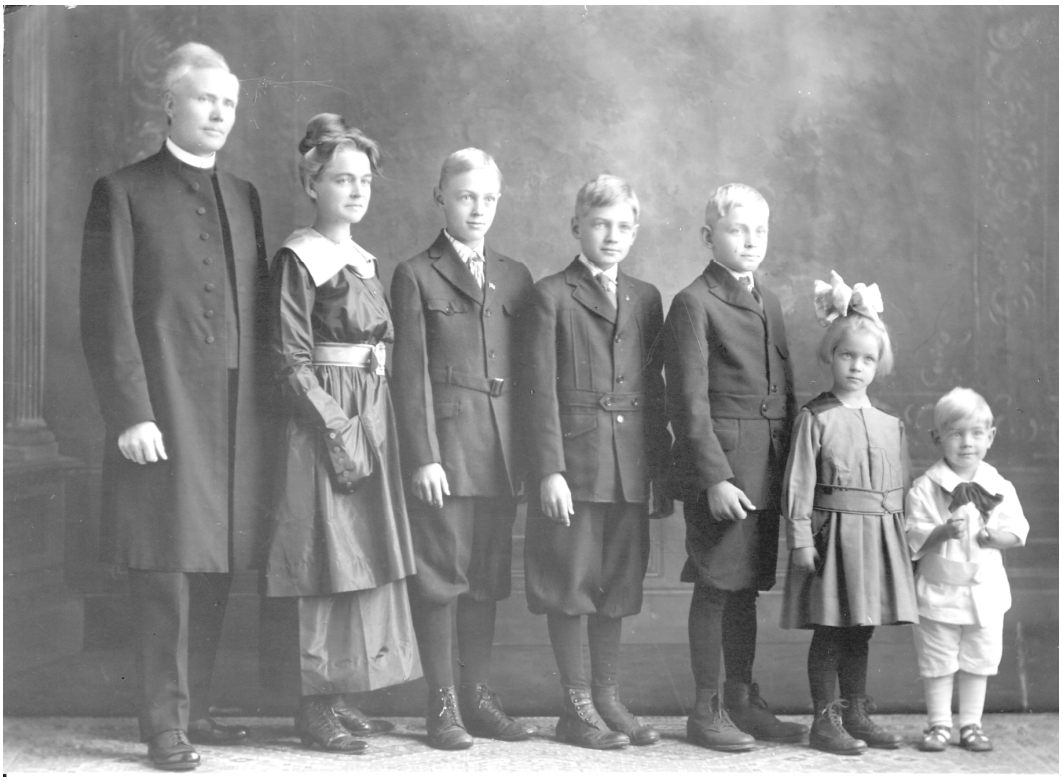
Her husband, the late Dr. August T. Seashore, was a former president of Luther Junior college in Wahoo.

He also had been pastor of Grace (Augustana) Lutheran church in Minneapolis, when it was in the Seven Corners area, and of Bethany (Augustana) Lutheran church, which he founded.

Mrs. Seashore was born in Scandia, Minn. Her father was a teacher and pioneer businessman in Marine-on-St. Croix.

She is survived by four sons, Dr. Rosel, Duluth, Dr. Harold and Mauritz, both of White Plains, and Dr. Stanley, Ann Arbor, Mich.; two daughters, Mrs. Willard Matthias, Alexandria, Va., and Mrs. Arthur Koerber, Pittsfield, Mass.; 10 grandchildren; one great-grandchild, and three sisters, Laura Rose, Marine-on-St. Croix, Mrs. Edward Leffler, Stillwater, Minn., and Mrs. Henning Ericson, Forest Lake, Minn.

Sylvia Seashore,
Laura Rose,
Jennie Rose Seashore,
Mauritz Seashore



August, Jennie, Rosel (14), Harold (12 ½), Mauritz (11), Selma (6), Stanley Emanual (3)
Picture taken in Wahoo, Nebraska , 1918

1931 Seashore Christmas card
Seated: Christine Rose, Jennie Rose Seashore, Marian Erickson, August Seashore

Dec 16, 1904 Rosel Theodore Seashore May 20, 1962

Gustavus Adolphus graduation

Rosel was born in Swea City, Iowa. He was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, in June of 1927, and from the University of Minnesota Medical School. Rosel was in the US Army Medical Corps, CPT, between 1939-1953. He married **Dorothy Elizabeth Price** of Minneapolis, Minnesota, on July 6, 1933. Dorothy was born on October 1, 1910, in Tacoma, Washington. She died on October 16, 1992, in Duluth, Minnesota. They lived at 5107 Glendale Avenue, Duluth, Minnesota, and were members of the Presbyterian Church. He was a medical doctor between 1932-1962. **Elaine Elizabeth** was born in Duluth, Minnesota. She was graduated from She was graduated with a Nursing Degree from St. Luke's School of Nursing in Duluth, Minnesota. **Virginia** was born in 1940 in Duluth, Minnesota.

Dies at 56 After Attack

Dr. Rosel T. Seashore, 56, Duluth physician, died Sunday night of an apparent heart attack while being taken to a Duluth hospital. He lived at 5107 Glendale St.

A graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, and the University of Minnesota medical school, Dr. Seashore began practice in Duluth in 1934 following internship at Miller Hospital, St. Paul.

Dr. Seashore

He carried on general practice until called to service in World War II. He served two years in the medical corps in the Aleutian Islands.

In 1946, following completion of military service, he returned to medical school for two years of specialist study, following which he began practice of obstetrics and gynecology.

He was a member of the St. Louis County Medical Society, the American Medical Association, the College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and Lakeside Presbyterian Church.

Surviving are his wife, Dorothy; two daughters, Mrs. George Waterston, Austin, Tex., and Mrs. Roger DeCaigny, Homewood, Ill.; three brothers, Harold G., New York City; Maurice, White Plains, N. Y., and Stanley, Ann Arbor, Mich.; two sisters, Mrs. Willard Mathias, Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Arthur Keorber, Pittsfield, Mass., and three grandchildren.

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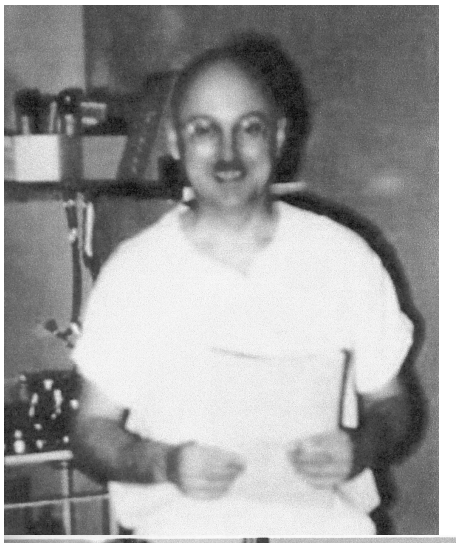
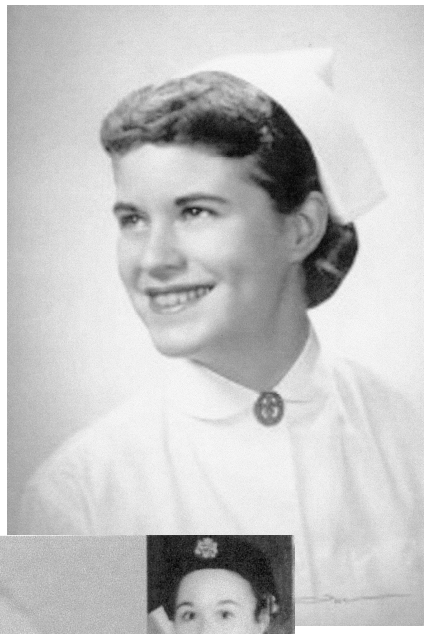
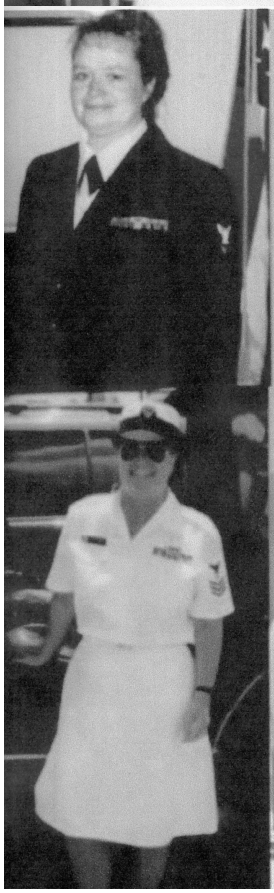


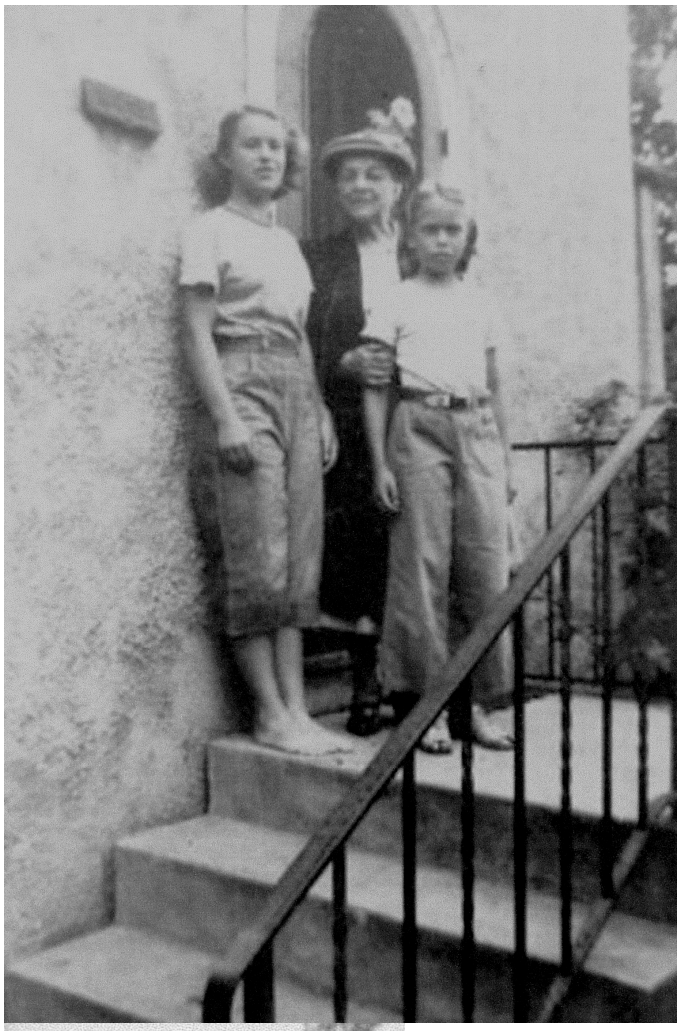
Rosel



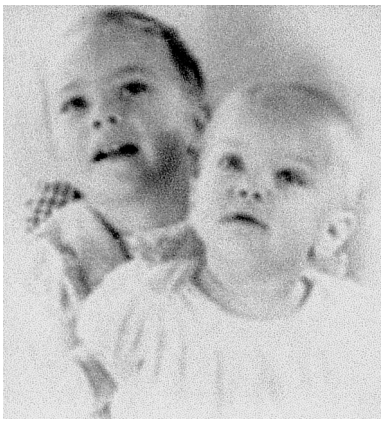
Rosel's daughter,
Elaine Seashore



Three Generations of Military:
Dawn: Navy Reserve Intelligence
Rosel: Army Medical Corps Aleutians WWII
Kim: Army Medical Specialist and Military Police Investigator

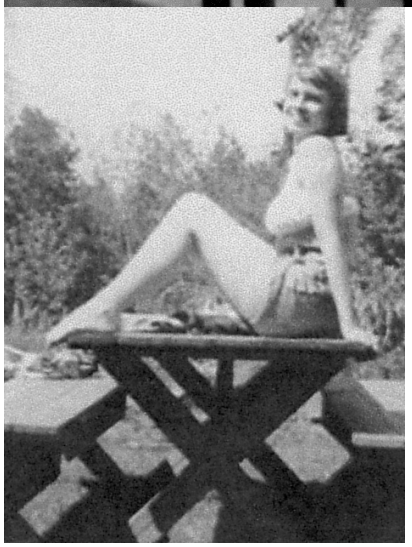


Left: Elaine, Jennie and Virginia



Above: Elaine & Virginia Seashore

Elaine and Jim



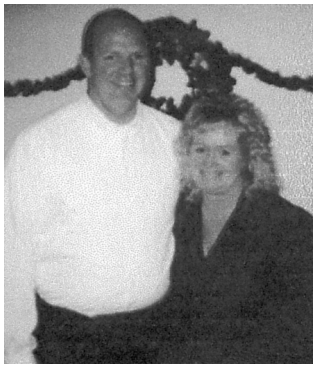
At left: Virginia Leone Seashore. She was born in Duluth, Minnesota. She married **Roger DeCaigny** on July 3, 1959, in Duluth, Minnesota. She was graduated with an AA from the University of Minnesota Duluth in 1960. In 1979 she got her Certified Medical Assistant Degree from Vocational Technical College. Roger DeCaigny was graduated with a B.S. from the University of Minnesota Duluth and his MBA from the University of Chicago. They have five children: **Gregory, Scott, Michael, Christopher** and **Leanne**.

Gregory married **Shannon** on September 2, 1995, in Frankfurt, Illinois. They have two children: **Sandra** and ?.

Scott married **Theresa Roeller** on July 6, 1984, in California. They have two children: **Scott Thomas** and **Angela Marie**.

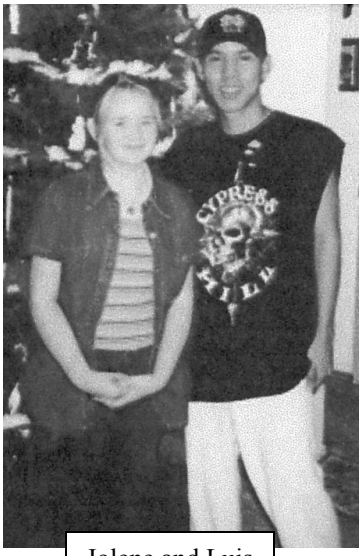
Michael Joseph married **Donna**. They have two children: **Cole** and **Emma**.

Elaine Elizabeth Seashore was born in Duluth, Minnesota. She was graduated from Bemidji State University, Bemidji, Minnesota, with a B.S. in Social Work. She also graduated with a Nursing Degree from St. Luke's School of Nursing in Duluth, Minnesota. She married **George Fred Waterston** in September of 1958 in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. He was born in Texas and was in the Korean War with the U.S. Navy. She married her second husband **James Allen Higgins** on December 3, 1968 in Chicago, Illinois. He was born in Duluth, Minnesota.



Dawn Elizabeth Waterston Higgins was born in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. She was graduated from the University of Minnesota Duluth with a B.S. in Elementary Education. She was in the U.S. Navy Reserve as an Intelligence Specialist. She **married David Beam**. She married **Steve Cooper** in 1987; he was in the U. S. Marine Corps. They have one daughter, **Jolene Elizabeth,** who was confirmed on May 4, 2003, at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Austin, Texas. **Dawn** has been employed as an administrative assistant for the Austin police department Mental Health Unit.

At left: David and Dawn

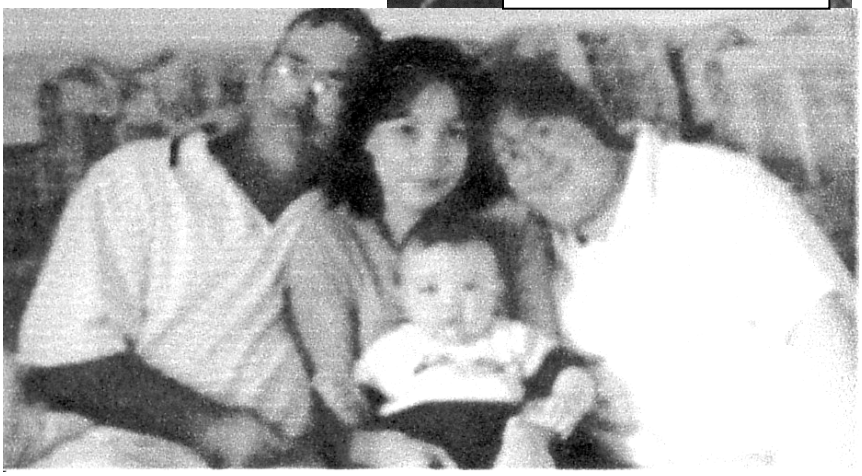


Jolene and Luis

Kimberly Watson Higgins

Kimberly Ann Waterston Higgins was born in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Between the years of 1986-1992 she was a Military Police Investigator and EMT. Between 1981-1992 she was in the US Army as an Intelligence Specialist, Military Police and Criminal Investigator. Between 1976-1985 she was a dance (including adaptive dance) instructor. She retired in February of 1992, as a Disabled Veteran - Panama Conflict (Just Cause).

She married **Richard Allen Pietrzak** on November 6, 1997, in Harlingen, Texas. He was in the US Army between 1975-1997. He retired from the US Army and is a Gulf War Veteran. Their children are: **Michael James Higgins** and **Luis Alberto Medellin Pietrzak**. When a press agent asked **Kim** how she felt about being a woman in combat, her reply was, "I am a cop. My job is the same whether in combat on the streets of New York or in the field of combat in Panama. A police officer faces the same danger everyday no matter where the job is."



Richard, Susan, Luis, Kim and Kim's grandson Jaden

Dr. Harold Seashore Ph.D.

Harold was born in Swea City, Iowa, and died in White Plains, New York. He is buried in Aledo, Illinois. He was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1929 and received his Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Iowa in 1933. From 1929-1930 he was principal of Cambridge High School, Cambridge, Minnesota; 1933 psychology teacher at the University of Iowa; 1942-1944 research associate of the U.S. Office of Scientific Research and Development, lecturer at Columbia and New York Universities. Harold was a psychologist and business executive. In WWII he developed testing programs of psychological nature for training soldiers under simulated conditions. He devised many psychological tests. In 1944 he was a member of the Psychological Corporation, 1956 member of the New York State Board of Examining Psychologists and American Board of Examiners of Professional Psychologists and was the first president of the Association for Measurement and Evaluation in Guidance. Harold married **Ruby Idstrom** of Carver, Minnesota. Harold and Ruby made their home at 33 Hartsdale Avenue, White Plains, New York. They had two children: **Anne Caroline** who was graduated from Oberlin College and **John Harold** who was graduated from Yale University School of Medicine.

Anne Carolyn, Carol Anderson, Harold, Lydia Anderson, Anna "Pete" Leffler, Ruby, Estelle Rose Erickson, John and Gail Anderson

Back row:
Harold Anderson,
Jennie, Estelle, Laura

Front row:
Christine, twins Carol
and Gail Anderson, Marian
Anderson, Henning Erickson

Mauritz Collin Seashore

Mauritz Seashore was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, and received his M.S. from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was an YMCA executive in New York City and Retirement Fund Executive. Mauritz died in Beverly, Massachusetts. He married **Rachel Key Ranck**, in Duluth, Minnesota (who was a descendant of Francis Scott Key!). She graduated with a B.A. from University of Cincinnati, M.A. Banks Street College, New York City, and was an elementary school teacher for many years. Mauritz and Rachel are buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, Topsfield, Massachusetts. They lived at 19 Stratford Avenue, White Plains, New York.

Rachel & Mauritz Seashore 1963

- Rachel Key was born in Leominster, Massachusetts. She was graduated with a B.S. from Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio, M.A. from Lesley College, Cambridge, Massachusetts. She married **Robert Russell Kurtz**, **Jr**. in White Plains, New York. She was a preschool and elementary school teacher. They had two children: **Kristen Lynn** and **Robert Russell** and live at 12 Goldfinch Way, Ipswich, Massachusetts. Robert Russell Kurtz, Jr. was born in White Plains, New York. He received his B.A. from Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio, in psychology; M.S.W. from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. He is a human services consultant.

Kristen Lynn Kurtz was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She received her B.A. from Colby College in Waterville, Maine; M. Ed. From Lesley College, Cambridge, Massachusetts. She is an elementary school teacher. She married **Adam Ethan Kornfeld**. He was raised in South Salem, New York, and was graduated with a B.S. from the University of New Hampshire in Durham, New Hampshire. He sells training programs. They have two children: **Jordan Scott** and **Jessica Key**, and they live in Norfolk, Massachusetts.

Robert Russell Kurtz III was born in White Plains, New York. He was graduated with a B.S. in business from Husson College, Bangor, Maine. He is a District Coordinator for AFLAC Insurance and lives in Auburn, Maine. He married **Lisa Louise Lagasse**. **Lisa** is a court reporter and was graduated from Husson College, Bangor, Maine. She is presently studying to become a teacher. They have two children: **Rachel Key**, and **Robert Russell**.

Kristin Maureen was born in White Plains, New York. She was graduated with a B.A. from Heidelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio and a Masters of Social Work from Boston University School of Social Work. She lives in Winthrop, Massachusetts. (Note: I can't explain how she fits into the Mauritz Seashore family since she is not listed in any of the previous paragraphs and is not listed on the genealogy charts – comm

Jennie Rose Seashore

Selma (Sally) Lillian Seashore

Sally was born in Swedeburg, Nebraska. She married **Willard C. Matthias** who was born in Dubuque, Iowa. He graduated from the State University of Iowa and was a political scientist and diplomat. They lived at 408 Clover Way, Alexandria, Virginia. They had two children: **Jane Iris** and **Theodore Willard**.

Jane Iris was born in Washington, DC. She was graduated from Brown University with a B.A. in 1969. She lives in Alexandria, Virginia, and is a Policy Assistant U.S. Congress and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Theodore Willard was born in Washington, DC. He was graduated from Herdelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio, and is an Information Systems Manager. He married **Carol Wilde** of Cathopher, Massachusetts in 1978. They live in Easthampton, Massachusetts. They have two children: **Colin Eldridge** and **Jonah Nathanie**l.

Stanley Emanuel Seashore

Stanley was born in Swedeburg, Nebraska. He was graduated from the State University of Iowa; received his M.A. from the University of Minnesota and his Ph. D. from the University of Michigan. He was a psychologist at the University of Michigan, Institute of Social Research. He married **Eva Danielson** from Marine on St. Croix in 1939. They had two daughters: **Karen Rose** and **Christine Sigrid**.

Sylvia Christine Seashore

Sylvia was born in Wahoo, Nebraska. She married **Arthur Koerber** who was born in Northampton, Massachusetts and died in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He was an electrical engineer with General Electric Company. They lived at 107 Brighton Avenue, Pittsfield, Minnesota.

Jennie Rose Seashore and Jennie Gabrielson Monson (daughter of Johanna Gabrielson who was the sister of Christine's husband, John) in Marine on St. Croix

6-25-1883 Laura Theresia Rose 11-30-1972

Laura - M. S. in American History, Columbia University

Laura was born on June 25, 1883. She was awarded her B.A. in 1914 from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. She taught in high schools in Idaho, Montana and Minnesota. She was awarded her M.S. in American History from Columbia University. Laura never married; **Estelle** said that she had lost the man she loved in the war and decided to never marry.

Harold Anderson would reminisce about Laura taking off in the late summer with her old car, traveling alone from Minnesota to Greenville, North Carolina. He always feared she wouldn't make it, but she never had any trouble on her many trips. She taught American History for twenty-two years at East Carolina Teachers College, retiring in 1948 to the Rose home in Marine. She was active in the International Relations Committee at the college. She was a very strong-willed and independent lady with a love of family and preserving history. She shared the Bloom history with the Minnesota Historical Society and gave items from the homestead to each lineage of the Blooms before she died. She had decided early on never to take a drink of alcohol because her father was an alcoholic, and the family was severely affected by it. She never did take a drink. When she would get frustrated with something at home, she would get in her car and drive many miles to visit relatives in the Chisago City area of Minnesota.

She was a quiet, dignified lady who would surprise her great-niece, Gail, with her acceptance of the ways of the younger generation; this must have been an asset in her teaching career with young college students. Gail, Carol and a few of their friends would spend a weekend with her in the Rose house during the summer. She would tell them her stories of her ancestors and the Marine area, and she allowed them freedom to explore the Rose pasture, the red bridge, the ravine and walk all around Marine. The ravine was always the favorite place to pretend it was a jungle, walk along fallen timber or make the perilous trip across the waterfall! There was always a visit to the cemetery to remember family members.

She was a frequent speaker on her Swedish ancestors and gave an account of the contributions to American life and culture made by her pioneer forefathers. In her later years, Roy Strand would help her put on the storm windows that needed to be numbered because each window was a different size! Estelle and Laura would visit their sister, Anna (Pete) in the Greeley Nursing Home in Stillwater, Minnesota, each week. Laura, Winnie LeVine and Bea Goebel each lived alone in their houses and would watch out for each other; they had a signal of putting a candle in a certain window if they needed help.

Gail once asked Laura if she didn't get lonesome during the long winters, and Laura said, "I couldn't be lonesome here where I can talk to Mama and my family". Laura's hearing continued to decline, and she had arteriosclerotic heart disease. She died of congestive heart failure on November 30, 1972, and is buried with her family in the Oakland Cemetery, Marine on St. Croix. A room has been named for her in the Asa Parker House (formerly the Strand family home). It is decorated with roses.

Laura Rose's notes when she gave talks around the Marine area 1950-1968.

It's a sure sign of old age when---"When I was...", but even at the risk of being called an old lady, that is what I am going to tell you---"When I was a little girl" hoping my story will give you some idea of what Marine was like during those last prosperous years of sawmill, lumber-jack days in Marine. That is not exactly what it was like to a little girl who lived there then.

Professor Laura Rose – Taught American History for twenty-two years at East Carolina Teachers College

I have heard older people call it a wicked, drinking, gambling, three-saloon town. That wouldn't be a little girl's memory. The nearest to a saloon that I got was when I had to get Anna and Estelle home from Kroon's loafers' bench! They were about two or three years old and were very happily sitting on the loafers' knees! Terribly embarrassing for a shy eight year old sister! If you look at the map, you can see why Marine was chosen as a place to build a sawmill and why a settlement grew up here. Back in those wilderness times with their poor roads, if any, water transportation would be a "must" for the sawmill people. The St. Croix River would float the logs down from the heavily timbered woods to the north. Our creek with the hill provided the needed falls to give the mills waterpower for sawing the logs. The river steamboats would carry the lumber to the market and lumber rafts floated down the river. They also brought settlers to raise food and work in the mills.

When the timberland was cut, the logs stopped coming and the steamboats stopped coming up here regularly, the sawmill days were over. There was a planing mill between Wyckman's and Westergren's. That was run by steam-at least when brother Willie and I (maybe six and eight) went down there one dark night. We looked down into a hole where some grimy men were having a huge fire. No place for little children, and we got chased off, scared as could be and not sure whether we had peeked into hell or not. Dark as it was, it was a fearful place to us.

Laura 1883 - 1972

Until I was eight years old, I tagged brother Willie who was two years older. He seems to have been ready to try anything to satisfy his curiosity. The only time that I remember failing to follow his lead was when he climbed up our roof to look down into the chimney. I only got halfway up - what the G.I.'s called "butterflies" got the best of me. Willie was disappointed, too. He wasn't tall enough to look over the chimney's edge.

Another thing we did was to go down to the lumberyard and climb up the lumber piles that were drying. The men piled them with boards sticking out on one side to form steps. I can still smell that freshly sawed lumber. I still like that smell. The lumber company gave us another chance to explore and play. Their stables for their horses were just across the road. The stables and a wagon yard were walled in. Lumber must have been cheap - it was used so freely. The only time we got inside the walls was when the men came to get or bring back the horses to the stables. Naturally, Willie and I would hang around to see what we could see. Sometimes they left dumping wagons outside the enclosure, and we could run back and forth on these like on seesaws. (Note: Willie drowned in the St. Croix river in June 1891. he was not yet 10 years old. Comment added Milan Bloom).

My first school was in the old stone town house. There was a "wall fence" around it and board sidewalks. We liked to play Prisoners' Base, Pump, Pump Pull Away and Anti-Over at recess.

There was a Congregational Church in town, but there were too few members, and it didn't last. There were many members of the Swedish Lutheran Church since so many of the townspeople had been born in Sweden. In the summer we had Swedish School.

I wonder if children were happier then. There were no automobiles or snowplows; we would hitch our sleds to farmers' bobsleds and go coasting. We had the freedom to roam in anyone's pasture. The ravine was our place to wade and explore.

All hauling or riding not done by steamboats had to be done with horses. The rare and thrilling times I went with someone to Stillwater was by stage-a two-hour ride. There were no hard-surfaced roads, either, but often mud or dust to go through.

We had our own horses, Prince and Fanny. When I was about twelve, I began to drive Prince using the old buggy or with the family. We would pile into the big spring wagon to go up to Grandpa Bloom's or Big Lake.

My father became a part of Marine when he bought the flour mill and a store standing where Springsteen's Garage is now-at the crossroads we called downtown. North of our store was a drugstore which at one time was a meat market, and across to the south was the Company Store, town hall and Wyckman's saloon. Kitty-corner from our store was Henry Olson's store, Smith's Saloon and Henry Olson's home. Across from our store was Mermond's, Kroon's Saloon and J. Lund's Saloon. N. P. Root's Blacksmith Shop and C. W's shop was across the street from Wyckman's.

The flour mill, like the sawmill was run by waterpower. The creek, the two dams and the wooden race brought the needed water and fall to make its turbine work. The mill was a four-story frame building and a very fascinating place for little children; it was also a dangerous place, so we got chased out as soon as anyone saw us. Father was not a miller himself, but the miller and his helper did the chasing. I remember the prosperous days when the farmer's wagons were sometimes lined up almost down to the main street waiting to unload their grain. Sometimes some of them had to stay overnight. There was a long shed and even a little house across the creek with a stove, chair and a bed where they could spend the night. Remember, these were horse and buggy days, and they came from up to sixteen miles to get their wheat ground into flour.

Those were the prosperous days. They did not last long, but they were nice while they did. That was when father built our house (Shorr's) and bought our walnut furniture. Our hard times came about the same time as the end of the lumbering prosperity. You might say the Minneapolis flourmills brought our flour mill hard times. At least it was the main cause. These mills were expanding very quickly. Grain elevators were being built nearer to our farmers, and they found it much more convenient to haul their grain there for cash and buy flour there. Besides, Minneapolis flour was whiter and less heavy than ours. They could afford the newest and best machinery to be had-our little flourmill could not. The result was fewer and fewer grain wagons came to our mill and, naturally, harder and harder times came to the Roses.

Father died as these times were beginning; he died before he was fifty years old. With the loss of the prosperous mills, the town as a whole came into hard times until it became adjusted to being just a pleasant village where it was very nice to make our homes.

Our house was modern for its day but had no electricity, so kerosene lamps had to be cleaned on Saturday mornings. We had no furnace but had a wood stove, a big six-lid iron kitchen stove. We children would carry wood and corn cobs for the stove. We had to polish it and heat irons on the stove. We washed with washboards and tubs by hand; there was one "machine" (Lenox) run by hand power. We made soft soap every spring. We had cellars since we had no refrigerators or ice. We did have running water, but no hot water. We had a sink and drain in the kitchen and a bathroom on the second floor with no tub; we had

Lillian Rose, Edna and Irene Strand | Winnie Bloom - Anna Rose

a lavatory and a toilet. On Saturday nights we would take baths in washtubs in the kitchen. Girls would come home from school with me to flush the toilet! There might have been other toilets in the big lumbermen's homes. We didn't have a telephone, but I remember the first time I used one was at the Company Store. I must have hollered into it because Anton (in Minneapolis) laughed. I was surprised to hear a laugh! We did have daily mail. We had the Minneapolis Journal, Stillwater Messenger, Flour Mill Magazine, Minnesota States Tiding, Augustana and Youths' Companion.

There was no fresh fruit or vegetables in the store in the winter; we could buy that when in season. We stored up what kept in the cellar, canned and bought a barrel of apples. Milk was not sold in the store, so most families kept a cow. We rented out pasturage in two big pastures. Our cow and two horses were in the ravine. People took turns taking milk to the parsonage. We did make cheese.

Christine Rose's pasture.

Strand store in Marine today.

I remember the long home-knit stockings and heavy underwear we would wear in the winter. In the summer we would wear creations from "Rose's Best" flour sacks. As I think back, Marine was very alive - sounds of the saws cutting through logs, planing mills sounded a little different. For us with school across the street, there were children at play and the lower humming of the flour mill.

Marian Harold (Sharkey) and twins Carol and Gail Anderson. This is the back of the cabin in Christine's woods. The rock is the back of the fireplace.

December 5, 1888 Anna Virginia "Pete" Rose October 24, 1969

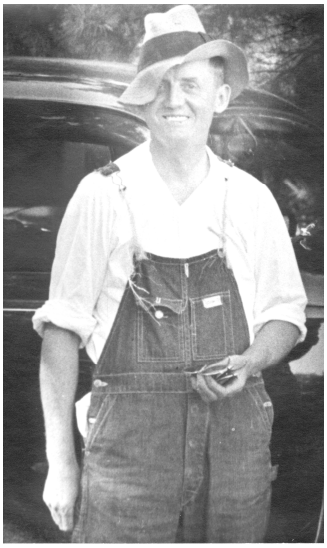
Anna was born on December 5, 1888, and was given the nickname "Pete". She was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College and was a Registered Nurse with the Red Cross. She married **Edwin Leffler** on February 14, 1915. Pete had a good sense of humor, loved being with people and was a feisty five foot two! Dick Rose remembers Pete driving her big Cadillac ambulance around Boston loving to nose out the taxi cab drivers! She loved to go to auctions and furnished most of their house in Waban from the Cambridge and Boston auctions. She had household help for awhile but decided it was better to let students from MIT and Harvard stay in the servants quarters and do the work around the home. There were always students around the house; Mauritz Seashore dubbed it the "spaghetti farm"! Anton and his family as well as Helen (Strand Wollan) and her family spent a lot of time with Pete and her family. Mauritz Seashore stayed there while going to school and was the handyman. Estelle and her family stayed there while Henning was working with Ed, and Marian was going to school. Gail (Anderson) remembers Pete's favorite entertaining spot in Minnesota was The Lowell Inn in Stillwater. Pete and her family would spend time in Minnesota each summer and stay with Christine. Pete loved to take the twins (Gail and Carol Anderson) on her roller coaster ride; she'd floor the pedal, so the car seemed to fly up and down the back hills of Marine and Stillwater! After Ed died, she lived in Marine in the Rose house for awhile. The downstairs bathroom was added to the house after Pete had a stroke. Pete's sisters, Laura and Stell, had labored to get her up the front stairs. There was always a lot of laughter, but it was hard work. She had a massive stroke while entertaining friends at the Lowell Inn. She spent a few years in Tallahassee, Florida, with her son, Jack, and his wife, Nell, but she wanted to be near her sisters. She spent her remaining years in the Greeley Nursing Home in Stillwater, Minnesota. Pete died on October 24, 1969, and is buried in Oakland Cemetery, Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota.

Edwin Leffler was born Edwin Johnson but changed his name, so he would have a more memorable name as a stock broker. He chose "Leffler" after the French word "la fleur". He was born in 1890 in Ellsworth, Wisconsin. After coming to Boston in 1920, he began the mutual investment trust movement which was culminated by his organization of the Massachusetts Investors Trust of Boston in 1924. He was the co-organizer and director of Incorporated Investors and was associated with State Street Investment Corporation. During the war he served on the War Production Board. Ed died in 1950 in Waban, Massachusetts.

John Edwin Leffler (Jack) was born on December 27, 1920, in Boston, Massachusetts. He married **Nell White Foust** on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1952, in Trinity Lutheran Church in Tallahassee, Florida. They made their home in Tallahassee. Nell said that she and Jack loved cruising around the Bahamas, fishing, scuba diving and traveling around the world. They would scuba dive all over the Caribbean. He joined ACS in 1940; emeritus member. He was graduated magna cum laude from Harvard, completing his B.S. in 1942. Two weeks after becoming the first graduate student of Nobel Laureate R. B. Woodward, a professor at Harvard, Jack put aside his education to join the national effort during World War II. He spent the war years as a research associate at Harvard and at the University of Chicago, working on chemical warfare agents and then field-testing them in Florida and Panama. Before returning to his studies, he spent a few months at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, working on rocket propellants. He received a Ph.D. in 1948 and held a one-year fellowship at Cornell University where he was supported by a DuPont Fellowship for independent research. This was followed by a year on the faculty at Brown University. In 1950 he joined Florida State in Tallahassee, Florida. He published *Rates and Equilibria of Organic Reactions, The Reactive Intermediates of Organic Chemistry* in 1956. This book, a classic in the field of physical organic chemistry, has appeared in Japanese and in Spanish. Its lasting value is reflected in that the English version was reprinted by Dover in 1989 and in that it survives

in continued use today. Leffler's theoretical work on the effect of changes in substituent or solvent on activation parameters is responsible for the frequent appearance in the literature of the term "isokinetic relationship", which he coined. The name has the advantage of suggesting the possible existence of an "isokinetic temperature" at which a series of reactions might all proceed at the same rate. Another contribution in the same field is a principle concerned with the modeling of transition states, sometimes called the Leffler-Hammond postulate. *An Introduction to Free Radicals* was published in 1993. He was finishing his fourth book when he died on May 18, 2000, of a stroke. He had retired in 1990 after a career of more than forty years that established him as a scholar of extraordinary scientific achievement.

Below: Nell and Jack 1959



At right:
Jack and Ed

Ed Leffler

Anna "Pete" and Estelle Rose in Marine

Pete in Forest Lake at Marian's

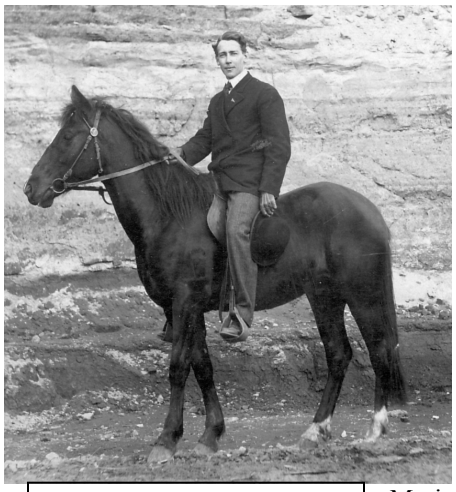
Nov 23, 1889 Emma Estella (Estelle) Rose Erickson Feb 25, 1965

Written by granddaughter Gail Anderson Sonbuchner 2003

Estelle was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College. Her mother, Christine, rented a house, so they could all live together in St. Peter, Minnesota. Christine hired herself out as a maid to help pay for college. Estelle married **Henning Erickson** on October 4, 1911, at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with her brother-in-law, Pastor A. J. Seashore, performing the ceremony. They had not told people that they were getting married; Christine sent out an announcement of their marriage. Henning gave Estelle the picture "A Good Catch" after their first date on July 4, 1906. Every year on their anniversary they made a trip to Taylors Falls.

In 1938 Estelle started a travel agency in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She would match up travelers to take trips together. She put on plays in the school house in Marine. In 1939 she purchased the hat shop in Stillwater, Minnesota; she named it "Estelle's". Women would come to her with their dresses to find just the right hat and jewelry. After working hours were over, "Estelle's" was a wonderful playground for her granddaughters with hats lining the walls and broken jewelry in the glass case by the door for them to play with. It was time to turn into movie stars with the fancy hats and jewelry! How Estelle (our Nonny) would laugh, and we would giggle!

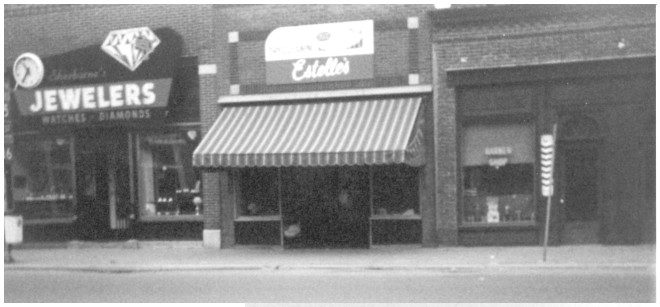
Family gatherings always centered around food and Estelle gathering her family around her. Thanksgiving was spent at the white house in the woods at Marine on St. Croix where her sister, Laura, retired. Estelle would cook her turkey and rutabaga pudding in her Stillwater apartment and later in her retirement home in Forest Lake, Minnesota. These would be wrapped in newspapers and blankets to keep them warm while she and Henning traveled to Marine. Henning would always carve the big bird, and we always had a game of sneaking tastes. After dinner he would take us on walks through the woods, and we would play with the old trunk in the upstairs north bedroom. The trunk had come over from Sweden; now it was filled with old-fashioned toys and "treasures".



Henning Eric Erickson

Christmas gatherings were always extra special with Estelle's Christmas tree dishes. Being served a cookie off one of those plates made everyone feel like royalty! She and Henning would make home-made root beer and Swedish sausage. Even in her later years when her eyes were dimming, she would make the Swedish Krokanar cookies. The "bridges" would get a little thicker as the years wore on but were tasty and pretty. Christmas was spent at Marian and Sharkey's house in Forest Lake, Minnesota. Sharkey would travel to Marine to pick up Laura and then to the Greeley Nursing Home in Stillwater to pick up Pete (Anna Rose Leffler). Winnie Bloom LeVine would often be with us. The black coffee pot with the egg coffee would always be ready for any visitors along with a full plate of Christmas cookies. There were always at least a dozen kinds of Christmas cookies. Laura always made her icebox orange cookies and buttery lace cookies. The noon meal was called "Doapa Greten" which was "dip in the kettle". Marian would make a meat broth with chunks of meat and onion in it. Then we dipped our dried bread in it and scooped out the meat. It usually fell

apart, so we spooned the broth and meat onto our bread! That was when the homemade root beer would be served. There was always a Swedish meal for Christmas Eve with lutefisk, Swedish meatballs, cranberries, peas, lefse, Swedish sausage, head cheese with vinegar and suet pudding with a warm buttery sauce. Pete would spend the night in the master bedroom with Santa always visiting her early in the evening. Laura would stay with her while the rest of the family went to Christmas Eve service at Faith Lutheran Church. We came home to more cookies, coffee and reminiscing. A big turkey with all of the trimmings was the Christmas Day meal.

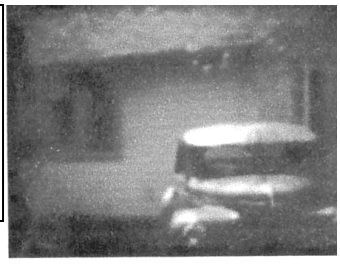


Estelle always welcomed everyone to her door anytime of the year. People from all over the country would drop in to see them whenever they were in the area. She never said anything bad about another person; if anyone gossiped, she would become quiet until she could say something nice about the person. She retired to Forest Lake, Minnesota, to be near her daughter and grandchildren. She continued to teach bridge and entertain friends. As her eyes dimmed, she would feel her way around the little house seeking her favorite dishes and treats. A smile always lit up her face as she joined her guests at the dining room table; it was a table pushed up against the window with a table cloth and flowers from her garden.

50th Wedding Anniversary
of
Estelle and Henning
Harold and Marian
Anderson,
Estelle and Henning
Gail and Carol Anderson

Henning Eric Erickson was born to Ole and Hulda Erickson (b. 1851; d. 1933). Ole and Hulda celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on November 20, 1912, in Stillwater, Minnesota. Henning had six sisters and one brother. He ran a Texaco Oil station from 1911-1924 in North Branch across the street from his future son-in-law, Harold Anderson! During 1924 he raised trout in Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota. In 1929 he was an investment trust officer with his brother-in-law, Ed Leffler, in Boston, Massachusetts. He invested all of their savings of $25,000. His investments failed, and he hadn't diversified like Ed Leffler had done; he lost all of the money in the big crash. He also worked as a tools and farm machinery salesman, a lumberjack and a guard at Stillwater State Prison in Stillwater, Minnesota. He would have the convicts in the low security section go with him to dig worms for fishing! He and "Stell" (as he called her) would go hunting together; he said that she made the best red squirrel pie! He loved crime magazines, snuff and Sen Sen. He was a quiet man unless there was something to argue about, and he was a man with a kind heart. He had a

Estelle and Henning's retirement home in Forest Lake, Minnesota



Marian Erickson

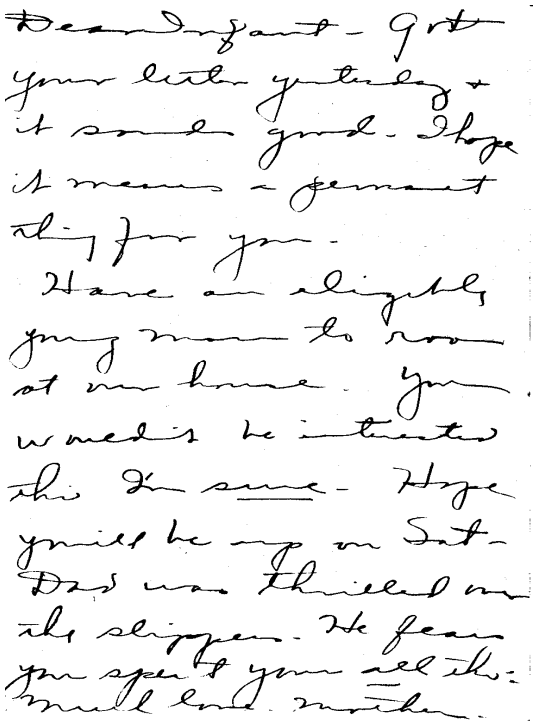
Pictured above is Marian and Sharkey Anderson's house in Forest Lake on the lake named "First Lake of Forest Lake." Their twins, Gail (the first editor of this book) and her sister, Carol, lived there from 3rd grade on. Carol still lives there.

hard time sitting still and had a nervous disposition. He was the worrier of the family and would talk on and on and usually end with "and so forth and so on." It was his standard phrase.

Marian Rose Erickson was a lot like her father, Henning, and was born in Stillwater, Minnesota. She always said that Marine was "heaven on earth." She loved the cabin in the Rose's pasture with its stone fireplace and her favorite rock in the bushes to the left of the "picture" rock. At ten years old she and her parents were living in the cabin on her Grandmother Christine's property. When Grandma would spend winters with Pete Leffler, they would move into the main house. Marian would tell of the times when she would have a male visitor to the house. When it got late, Grandma Christine would stand at the top of the stairs and say, "Marian! Can you tell me what time it is?" That was the signal for the young man to leave! Marian loved being around a lot of people. She knew everyone in Marine, and everyone knew Marian! She had a twinkle in her eye and a zest for fun. Marian often went to school in Marine. She moved to Boston with her parents in 1929 and lived with her Aunt Anna (Pete) Leffler. When she returned to Minnesota, she worked at Investors Syndicate in Minneapolis where she roomed at the YWCA with her good friends Lois Bonk and Ann Burkmann. She married **Edwin Higgins** on March 21, 1937; they were married by Lyle Burns, a cousin on the Bloom and Erickson side. Edwin was killed that year testing a plane for the Navy in Long Beach, California. Marian married Harold Alvin "Sharkey" Anderson in her Grandmother Christine's garden. Christine grew all of the flowers for the wedding. Sharkey's sister, Edna, and his brother-in-law, El, stood up for them. Marian would reminisce about their courtship. They met at a dance in Taylors Falls. She told about swimming in the river and holding on to Sharkey's waistband while they crossed the river, so she didn't have to touch the bottom! He would say that he could drive the road between Marine and Stillwater blindfolded, he'd driven it so often!

Marian and Harold's Wedding Picture
Sept 1, 1940 From left to right: El Huber, Lydia Anderson, Harold, Marian, Edna Huber (Harold's sister), Estelle, Christine, Henning and Laura.

Marian and Harold (Sharkey) Anderson



Dear Infant - Got your letter yesterday & it sure good. Hope it means a permanent thing for you.
Have an slightly long room to room at our house. You would be interested this Summer. Hope you will be up on Saturdays was thrilled on the slippers. We feel you spent your all the - must end with

Estelle always addressed her letters to Marian as "Dear Infant"!

Twins Carol and Gail Anderson b. 1942

Marian did not work out of the house after her marriage; Sharkey's mother had to work all her life, so he wouldn't hear of Marian working even when she wanted to find a job. She was active at Faith Lutheran Church, volunteered at the library and played bridge. They had a diverse assortment of friends and loved going out to dinner and dancing. They took dance lessons; then they would come home and teach the new steps to Carol and Gail. She and Sharkey would golf, and she was in a bowling league. She loved reading, knitting, ceramics, gardening and traveling. Marian had several small strokes in her earlier sixties which affected her tolerance for being in large groups and gave her a fear of falling. She became dependent on Sharkey to keep up the house and do most of the cooking. Marian spent the remainder of her life traveling between their homes in Forest Lake, Minnesota, and Port Charlotte, Florida. Before she died from a massive stroke, her mind would put her back home; home was her Grandmother Christine's house in Marine on St. Croix.

Carol Anderson

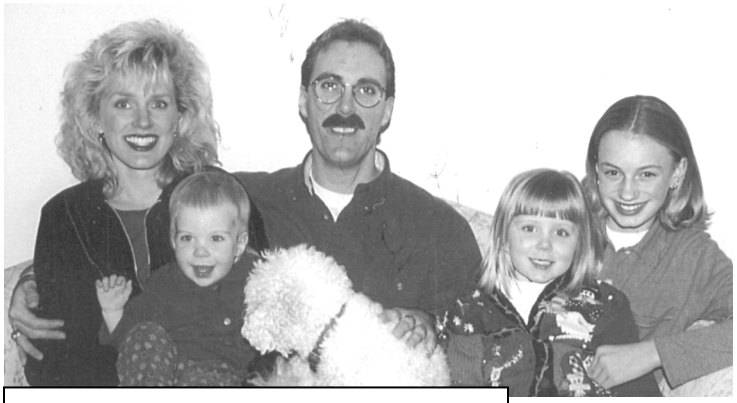
Marian Rose Anderson

Harold Alvin Anderson was christened Alvin Harold, but he changed his name legally when no birth certificate could be found. His nicknames were "Sharkey" and "H. A.". His nickname "Sharkey" was from his days as a basketball "shark". He started to go by "H. A." because there were five Harold Andersons in the then small town of Forest Lake! He had to quit high school to support his mother, grandmother and sisters when his father left home. He returned to high school and graduated from North Branch in 1927. He managed the Shell Oil station in North Branch for ten years, went with an independent insurance agency and was a State Farm Insurance agent for forty years in Forest Lake. He operated a tax service and had a real estate broker's license. He and Marian were members of Faith Lutheran Church for 59 years. He was a very active community member. During the war he volunteered as an air raid warden and worked in the arms plant in New Brighton. He was a member and officer of the Forest Lake Jaycees, Chamber of Commerce, Forest Lake Sportsman Club, Elks Club in Stillwater, Forest Lake Golf Course and served three years as a councilman. He is remembered as a loyal, hard-working man who took care of his

family, told joke after joke with accents and had a sparkle in his eyes. He lived by his motto, "Do what you have to do". He would not talk about any personal feelings, but he would watch the interaction between people carefully. His interpretations were unusually accurate.

Carol, Michael, Lynn

Carol Christine Anderson was born at Bethesda Hospital in St. Paul, Minnesota. She was graduated from the University of Minnesota Dental School as a Dental Assistant. She and **James Harold Fjerstad** married at Faith Lutheran Church in Forest Lake, Minnesota. He was from Pipestone, Minnesota, and was graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. They lived in an apartment near the University of Minnesota during the first year of their marriage; then they lived at her parent's home in Forest Lake for one year before they divorced in 1963. Carol married **Douglas Stay** in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1966; they divorced in 1970. Doug was from Minneapolis, Minnesota, and was graduated from Colgate College in New York. They lived in New York until their son, Michael, was born. Then they moved to Apple Valley, Minnesota. Carol was a paraprofessional at a school; Doug was a salesman for a plastic containers company. They had one son, **Michael Stay**. He was in the Navy for a short time and lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Carol married **Joseph Allen McCue** in 1971 in South Dakota, and they divorced in 1981. They lived in Burnsville, Minnesota, and had a cabin on Mille Lacs Lake. They both liked to fish and enjoyed the cabin. Carol was a secretary, and Joe was a salesman for building products. Carol married **Garry Wayne Olsen** of Hutchinson, Minnesota, at their townhouse in Maple Grove, Minnesota, on September 30, 1994. They now reside in the house that was her parents' home on 267 South Shore Drive, Forest Lake, Minnesota. Garry is a salesman. Carol enjoys needlepoint and collectibles.



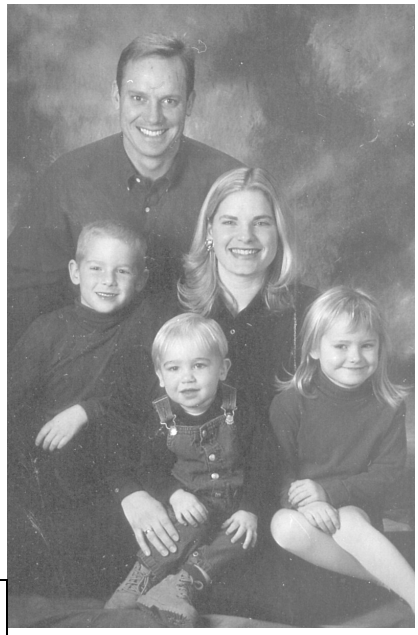
Lynn, Lauren, Kirk, Morgan and Brittany

Carol's daughter, **Lynn Marie Fjerstad** was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She graduated from Apple Valley High School and married her high school sweetheart, **Kent Lehnen** in Taylors Falls, Minnesota, on top of the rocks overlooking the river. He worked for Northwest Airlines. They lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and were divorced in 1986. They had one daughter, **Brittany Rose Lehnen,** who was born in Minneapolis. Lynn married **Kirk Andre Myhra** at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in St. Paul where Carol and Gail's former childhood neighbor, Susan Pepin Peterson, officiated. They lived in St. Louis Park, Minnesota. He graduated from the University of North Dakota with a Bachelor of Associate Arts and from the North Dakota Law School. Lynn worked as an Administrative/Sales and Marketing Assistant for Clayton Brokerage Co. and IRI Securities Company. She was a legal assistant for Jack Jaycox Law Offices & Mackall, Crounse & Moore. She is presently a Legal Immigration Assistant for Cargill, Inc., in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Lynn's hobbies are art, music, photography, travel, boating, collecting cookie jars and pixiware condiment jars from the 50's and 60's and designing greeting cards. They have two daughters: **Morgan Ashley Myhra** and **Lauren Alexa Myhra.**

Gail Estelle Anderson is Carol's twin born twenty minutes after Carol. When Henning told Grandma Christine that Marian had twin girls, she said, "You lie!" Everyone was so shocked because Grandma Christine had never called anyone a liar! The doctor had told Marian that she was having a big boy! The Marine grandma and aunts would take one twin in Marine for a week and then exchange and take the other one to help Marian and Sharkey out. When the twins got a little older, Estelle and Henning would visit them for the weekend in Forest Lake and put rugs by Marian and Sharkey's door, so they could get some sleep! Uncle Anton Rose took many pictures of the twins; he called Gail "Brigitta" and Carol "Ingeborg"! He would say, "Pa is Sharkey, a fierce man, and Ma Marian, gentle as a morning dove". They had their own language as toddlers; they talked only to each other with this language and would laugh and laugh! Gail and Carol were both graduated from Forest Lake High School in 1960. Gail was president of Chi Omega Sorority at the University of Minnesota where she was graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Education in 1964. She was graduated from Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minnesota, with a Master's Degree in Elementary Education in 1980; she combined the licensures of Elementary Remedial Reading, Secondary Remedial Reading, Secondary Developmental Reading and Learning Disabilities in her Master's Degree. She is the author of *Help Yourself: How to Take Advantage of Your Learning Styles*, has published articles in professional journals and magazines and has been a speaker at national and state conventions as well as at Minnesota universities. She taught in the public school system at the elementary and secondary levels and has served on committees at the local and state levels.

Gail Anderson and Hugo Sonbuchner

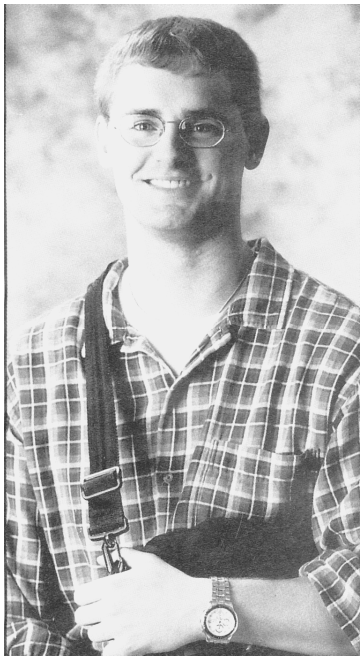
Gail married **Dennis James Murphy** at St. Peters Catholic Church in Forest Lake, Minnesota. Dennis was from Grand Rapids, Minnesota, and was graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1960 in accounting and mathematics. He was graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Law in 1963 and was in the Air National Guard. They made their home in Grand Rapids where Dennis was a partner in a family law firm, Murphy and Murphy. While in Grand Rapids, Gail was in the 1971 *Outstanding Young Women in America*. They divorced in 1980. They have three children: Marla, Sean and Jason. Gail moved to Monticello, Minnesota in 1980 and continued teaching at the high school level. She was in 1999-2000 *Who's Who of American Women*. Her hobbies are writing, quilting, calligraphy, stained glass and yoga. Gail married **Hugo Frank Sonbuchner** on July 18, 1983, in Monticello, Minnesota. Before attending college, Hugo owned a farm in Pierz, Minnesota. He was graduated with a B. S. from St. Cloud State in 1970 in English and German Education. He was graduated from St. Thomas University in St. Paul, Minnesota, with a Master's Degree in Curriculum. He taught English and German for twenty-eight years in the Minnesota public school system. Hugo has three children: Gregory, Jon, and Viktoria.



Rod, Colton, Marla, Lance, Connie

Marla Estelle Murphy was born in Duluth, Minnesota, and was graduated from Monticello High School and the University of Minnesota with a B.S. in Housing and a minor in architectural restoration and preservation with an emphasis on the handicapped and senior citizens. She married **Rodney Lance Olson** of St. Paul, Minnesota. He was graduated from Concordia High School and from Peru State with a B.S. He was a college football coach

for twelve years. He is presently the Director of Coaches Ministries for the state of Colorado for The Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and is a published author. They live in Castle Rock, Colorado. They have three children: **Colton Robert, Constance Estelle** and **Lance James.**

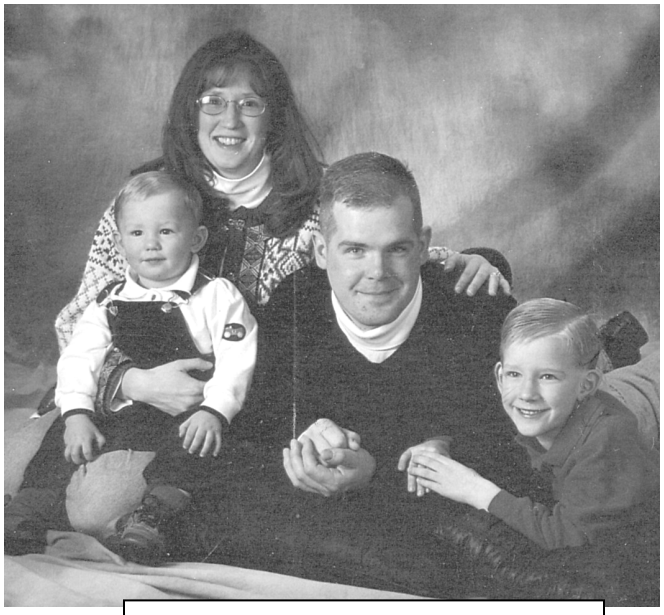


Sean Murphy

Sean Steven Murphy was born in Duluth, Minnesota, graduated from Monticello High School and is an Eagle Scout of the Boy Scouts of America. He spent two years of active duty in the U.S. Army. He was graduated from the Carlson School of Business at the University of Minnesota with a B.S. in Finance and a B.S. in International Business; CBCP; CTE; CFA; CISSP. He is presently working for Ernst and Young in New York City, New York. Sean was quoted in the Carlson School Magazine before leaving for a year-long study-abroad program at the Vienna School of Economics and Business Administration, "I want to experience a different way of life, to look at things in a new way and to make myself more marketable when I graduate. The Carlson School experience is very challenging. The program attracts high-quality professors and produces top-quality graduates." In 2009 he married Roberta Trentin from Italy and they have one child Luigi born in 2010.

Jason Murphy

Jason James Francis Murphy was born in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, graduated from Monticello High School and is an Eagle Scout of the Boy Scouts of America . He was graduated from the University of North Dakota in Industrial Engineering in 1996 and is presently a captain in the U.S. Army stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He married **Sashaa Olson,** his high school sweetheart, in Grand Forks, North Dakota, on December 14, 1991. Sashaa was graduated from the University of North Dakota with majors in mathematics and English in 1996. They have two children: **Jeremiah Daniel (J. D.)** and **Jacob James.**



Sashaa, Jacob, Jason, Jeremiah (J. D.)

Gregory Allen Sonbuchner (b. 1-17-1964) was graduated from Monticello High School and is an Eagle Scout of the Boy Scouts of America . He has a BA degree in accounting from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, and is a Certified Public Accountant. He married **Kirsten Mount** on July 21, 1993. They divorced in 1999. He presently works as computer consultant and lives in New York City, New York, and Chicago, Illinois. He was a karate instructor and pursues yoga and backpacking around the world.

Jon Lester Sonbuchner (b. 2-14-1965) was graduated from Monticello High School and is an Eagle Scout of the Boy Scouts of America . He graduated with a B. S. in mathematics and computer science from Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minnesota. He married **Susan Patterson** (b. 10-8-1965) in Opelousas, Louisiana. Susan graduated from Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky, in 1989 with a B. S. in Education. Jon presently teaches math, computers and religion at Westminister Christian Academy. They have four children:
Hannah Marie (b. 11-27-1991), **Tyler Scott** (b. 4-1993), **Abby Elizabeth** (b. 11-20-1995), **Cindy June** (b. 7-16-1998).

Susan, Cindy, Hannah, Jon, Abby and Tyler Sonbuchner 1998

Jon, Viktoria (Tori) and Greg Sonbuchner

Viktoria "Tori" Doreen Sonbuchner (b. 4-3-1973) was graduated from Monticello High School and has a B. A. in Criminal Justice from Winona State University in Winona, Minnesota. Tori married Terry Reisdorf (b. 6-8-1969) at St. Henry's Catholic Church in Monticello, Minnesota. They lived in St. Paul, Minnesota, and divorced in 2001. She worked as a Criminal Intelligence Analyst for the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension in St. Paul, Minnesota, and presently works as a Litigation Support Specialist for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She likes tennis, walking, yoga and her cat, Dunkin. Tori married **Thomas Billings** (10-27-1944) on February 14, 2003. Tom was a Gunnery Sergeant in the U.S. Marines, a Third Class Petty Officer in the Navy and a Sergeant First Class in the U.S. Army. He retired from the Minneapolis Police Department and is an agent for the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA). As of this writing, they live in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota.

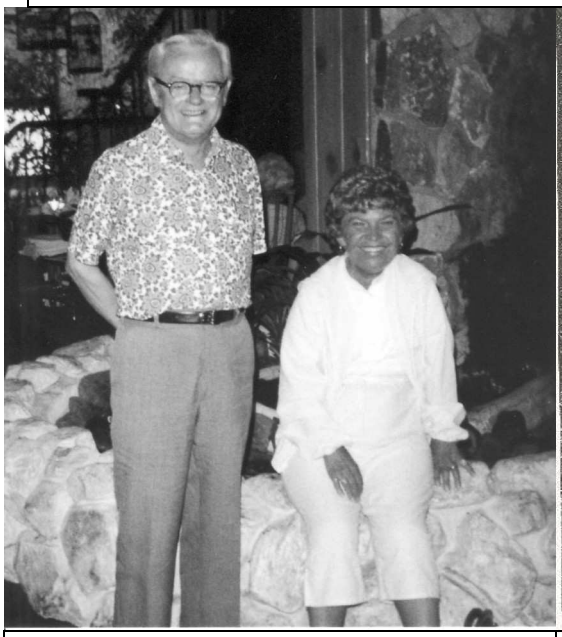
Gail Anderson Sonbuchner in her 1986 picture as author of :
Help Yourself: How to Take Advantage of Your Learning Styles

Marian and Harold (Sharkey) Anderson family.
Gail is on the floor and her twin, Carol is sitting with the cat.
The dog's name is Lady Jane and the cat's name is Honey Bunch
Picture taken in 1950 at 267 South Shore Drive, Forest Lake, MN

The Sonbuchner home today in Monticello, Minnesota

Miscellaneous Rose Family Pictures

Above: Rose *"House by the Mill"*. It burned down in 1962. After father Christine's husband, John Rose, died in 1898, Christine sold the house and mill and moved to the "*House on the Hill*".



Richard (Dick) Rose (1915 – present) and his wife Marjorie Paine Mitchell (1920 – 2004)

Marian and Harold (Sharkey) Anderson and twins (b. 1942) Gail (primary editor of this book) and Carol. Taken summer 1946.

This picture was taken on the steps of the Rose "cottage" in Marine. This cottage is no longer there, but we loved it.

Left to Right:
Florence Bloom Holgerson, Aunt Christine Bloom Rose, Jennie Rose Seashore,
Stella Rose Erickson, Aunt Emma Bloom Strand
Picture taken in 1930s by Anton Rose.

On the same day L-R:

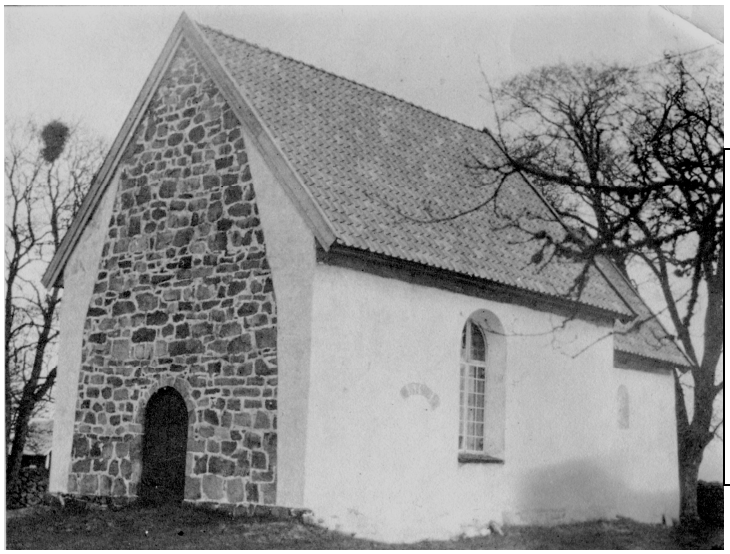
Aunt Christine,

Florence Bloom Holgerson,

Aunt Emma,

Jennie Rose Seashore

Picture by Anton Rose



This is Grandma Rose's (Katrina Petersdotter) church in Sweden with bell tower removed. Picture by Anton Rose - 1929. In this church is the bridal grown used by parish girls and likely by Grandma Rose (b. 1824) too.

It is thought by some of the Rose family that this is the log house (with modern siding) that Grandpa Jonas Gabrielson (b. 1810) lived in just before he left Sweden. Identification was by Anton Rose but he wasn't positive it is the actual house or one just like it. There is a log under the siding dated 1854.

Esther Sartorius (Helen Broberg Family), Laura Rose, Emma Strand, Winnie Bloom, Walter Broberg (Broberg Family).

Emma Strand's house in Marine

MARY BLOOM LAURA ROSE CHRISTINE ROSE EMMA STRAND JENNY SEASHORE

1. Mr. Wilhelm L. BLOOM (b.1860-Center City,Township 33,S7,L;d.1887-Marine-on-St. Croix)

sp: Ms Sarah Maria (Mary) MAGNUSSON (b.1860-Sweden;m.1885;d.1947-Marine-on-St. Croix,M)

- 2, Mr. Clarence B. BLOOM (b.1886-Marine-on-Saint-Croix;d.1952-Seattle,Washingon)
  - sp: Ms Jennie Matilda BRANDT (b.1890-Chisago City,M;m.1909;d.1946-Monroe,Washington)
    - 3, Ms Harriet Lorraine BLOOM (b.1910-Chisago City,Minnesota)
      - sp: Mr. Clarence E. WHITE
      - sp: Mr. Raymond PARNELL (m.1947)
    - 3, Ms Delores Bernice BLOOM (b.1911-Coeur d'Alene,Idaho)
      - sp: Mr. Fred T. STEELE (m.1937)
        - 4, Mr. Merle STEELE
          - sp: Ms Mary Lynne ANDERSON
            - 5, Ms Merlynne Dianne STEELE
              - sp: Mr. Larry LORVICK
                - 6. Ms Ericka Dianne LORVICK
                - 6. Ms Nicole Katherine LORVICK
            - 5, Ms Merelyn Dawn STEELE
              - sp: Mr. Jeffrey GOUGH
                - 6. Mr. Shawn Michael GOUGH
                - 6. Ms Kristina
            - 5, Mr. Michael Darron STEELE
              - sp: UNKNOWN
                - 6. Ms Michelle STEELE
                - 6. Mr. Matthew STEELE
        - 4, Ms Valerie Loraine STEELE
          - sp: Mr. Dennis R. SPIAAK
- 2, Ms WilhelminaTherasia BLOOM (b.1888-Fraconia Township,M;d.1962-Marine on St. Croix)
  - sp: Mr. Theodore John LEVINE (b.1883-Cokato,MN;m.1913;d.1918-Clarkfield,MN)
    - 3, Mr. Ralph Theodore LEVINE (b.1916-Clarkfield,Minnesota)
      - sp: Ms Dorothy Grace CROWER (b.1933;m.1960;d.1987)
        - 4. Mr. Roger Bruce LEVINE (b.1961)
        - 4, Mr. Eric John LEVINE (b.1963)
          - sp: Ms Carole Patricia AMPTMAN (m.1988)
            - 5. Mr. John Anders LEVINE (b.2002)
            - 5. Mr. Brad Anderson LEVINE
    - 3, Mr. Joseph William LEVINE (b.1917-Clarkfield,MN;d.2006-San Diego,California)
      - sp: Ms Jewel MILKE (b.1923-Antigo,Wi;m.1981)

2-28-1860 Wilhelm (William) Bloom 11-6-1887

written by grandson Ralph LeVine, 1-24-2003

In 1881 **Sarah Maria (Mary) Magnuson** (b. 3-25-1860, d. 12-1947), age 21, and three of her close girl friends emigrated from comfortable homes near Växjö, Sweden, to the U.S.A. They ended up in the Stillwater-Marine Mills, Minnesota, area. Employment was obtained as maids and housekeepers to learn the English language. Sarah had been educated in Sweden. She was a kind, strict, sharp and very wise religious person. She was a good leader. **Sara** attended the same school (built in 1869) in Marine Mills as her daughter, Winnie, and grandsons, **Ralph** and **Joe**, later attended. The school is still in use as an apartment house. A new modem school is now on the hill.

I guess the four girls were looking for adventure and husbands in a new land! They were successful on both counts! They were **Mrs. Bloom**, Mrs. Holm, Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Rydquist. They had frequent visits throughout their lives. Three of them lived in Marine, and Mrs. Anderson lived in Stillwater, Minnesota, eleven miles downstream.

Sarah (now called **Mary**) found **Wilhelm Bloom,** the third child born to Gustaf and Carolina Bloom. **Wilhelm** and **Mary** were married in 1885 and lived in a rented home in Marine Mills, Minnesota. **Wilhelm** was a young accountant for the newly built Soo Line Railroad. They had two children: **Clarence,** born on July 24, 1886, and my mother, **Wilhelmina** "Winnie." **Winnie** was born in the home of her grandfather, **Gustaf Bloom** on May 8, 1888 which was six months *after* her father, **Wilhelm**, became ill and died of pneumonia. Yes, **Wilhelm** was a smoker and he died at the age of 27. (Note: **Mary** may well have moved in with her in-law's, the Gustaf Bloom family, at the time of, or even before, her husband died. Under the circumstances, moving in with the parents was a very common practice in the "old days". In fact, although I don't know it to be a fact, **Wilhelm** may well have died in is father's house. Comment added by Milan Bloom).

Above : Sarah Maria (Mary) Magnuson (now called simply "Mary Bloom**"**). On the right is (Mary Bloom in the house her Bloom brothers-in-law built. Property given by John Rose and his wife Christine Rose who Mary Bloom's sister-in-law.

Mary Bloom's house - 2006

Clarence and Winnie Bloom 1894

So Then, now my Grandmother, **Mary,** had two children to care for and no bread winner. The beautiful and kind relatives gathered, went to Marine and built a small house on a plot of property owned by **John** and **Christine Rose**. **Christine** was the second child of **Gustaf** and **Carolina Bloom**. The Roses gave the two lots of property for the house to be built on, to **Mary**. We still have it. The required lumber was supplied by the big saw mill in Marine; it was mostly oak and pine. It was "tough sledding" for **Mary** for a long time. Mary was a skilled seamstress and knitter, and that helped. She did a lot of church work also.

In time of course my uncle **Clarence** and my mother**, Winnie,** grew up and then in, 1913, **Mother** married the Lutheran pastor's son, **Theodore** ("Ted" b. 9-26-1883, d. 12-28-1918).

Left: Winnie Bloom and
Right: Pete (Anna) Rose

John A. LeVine, Ted's father (my Grandfather) was a minister in Marine from 1904 to 1923. My Father, **Ted,** was born in Cokato, Minnesota and came to Marine with his parents in 1904. Incidentally, Ted's father, (my Grandfather) **John Andersson,** came from Sweden to America on the steamship "Orlando" and changed his name to **John Anders LeVine** upon arrival. **Ted** was a graduate of the University of Minnesota in pharmacy. **Winnie** attended Gustavus Adolphus with the **Rose** girls. She moved to Clarkfield, Minnesota, where **Ted** was a pharmacist. He was also a skilled trombonist and virtuoso pianist.

It was in Clarkfield that I was born (1-25-1916), and **Joe** was born here on 4-10-1917. Shortly after that, **Ted** LeVine, a hard working, heavy smoker, died of acute pneumonia on January 4, 1918. Aftter my father died, my mother, **Winnie, Joe a**nd **I** moved back to Marine and we two boys were raised at that place.

Marine was, and still is, a most beautiful little town. After the loss of both wage earners, things became tougher. But for the Grace of God, the kindness and extreme support of two large families of relatives (the **Roses** and the **Emma Strands**) plus the good people of Marine and the Swedish Lutheran Church, we managed to survive. There were small insurance benefits that helped some. Needless to say, this was a very, very loving community-just like a big devoted family.

Left to right: Winnie Bloom, Hazel Lord, Estelle Rose, Esther Berg Pete (Anna) Rose on floor

Estelle Rose, Esther Berg, Winnie Bloom

When I was a little over five years old, (last half of 1921 and first half of 1922) I was "taken in" (borrowed) by relatives **Paul** and **Lola Bloom**, a young, childless couple in Center City, Minnesota. One less mouth to feed in Marine! I was sort of a "rent-a-kid." I had a very happy educational year with those kind talented folks plus the association with the vast Bloom families that had been generated by the Bloom and Collin pioneers. All lived in the Chisago Lakes towns: Center City, Lindstrom and Chisago City. They were very close towns on the lakeshores.

One day **Lola Bloom** was very busy in the kitchen baking, making cookies and things. I was also there asking many questions about a variety of subjects. After awhile, **Lola** felt that my curiosity was interfering with her culinary concentration, so she said to me, "**Do you know that curiosity killed a cat**?" I replied, "**What did the kitty want to know**?" Lola started laughing so hard she had to sit on the floor until she recovered. Then she went over and gave me a hug! She still laughed every time she told it.

Wilhelmina “Winnie” Bloom 1906

Theodore LeVine 1883 - 1918

Paul Bloom, Lola’s husband, was a rural mail carrier and also a very talented musician (college graduate) on the piano. He toured the USA with a quartet from college and was the leader of the Chisago Lakes Concert Band. While there, I attended many band rehearsals and many concerts during the summertime at many small towns' -"concerts in the parks." The people who made up the Bloom clan were lovely people and were loaded with musicians - no television or radio - just human generated superb entertainment. They loved to sing and had excellent voices. There was a lot of classical music played by Paul at home with me listening and getting instructions. After I became six years of age on January 25, 1922, I was returned to Marine to start school in the fall. There was a tearful parting. **Paul** and **Lola** later adopted a baby whose name was "**Ralph**"! Later they were able to "manufacture" one of their own and named her P**auline**.

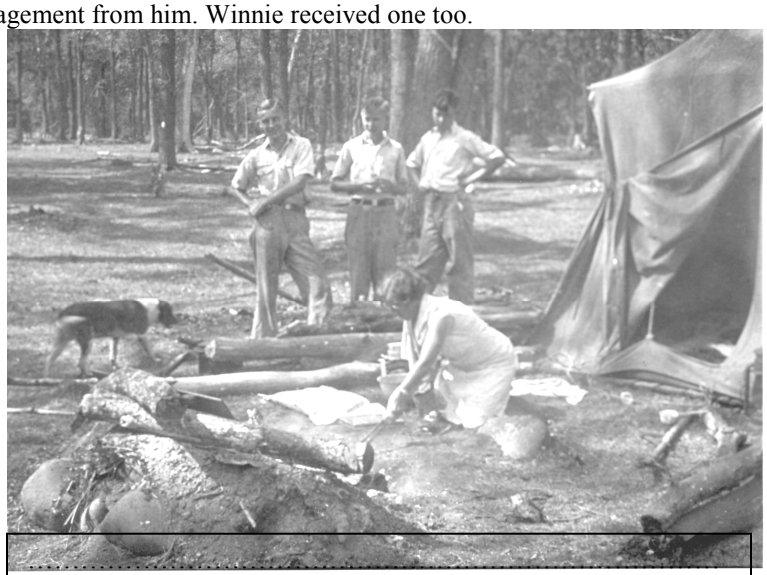
I was very well acquainted with all the Blooms in the Chisago Lakes area, especially, the Frank and Ruth Bloom’s. For several years before my **mother** was married, my mother was Dr. Frank Bloom’s dental assistant. Of course she quit that job when she married Theodore John Le Vine in 1913. Then in the years after my father died in 1918, we spent many happy summer stays with Frank and Ruth including living in their cottage at Deer Lake, Wisconsin. During those stays, we got complete, not to mention free, dental care by calm and skilled Dr. Frank Bloom. I also knew Uncle Dr. Bloom’s two kids- Vincent and Lavinia - quite well. Vince is long gong now but Lavina is still with us. Growing up, we also spent time visiting Paul and Lola Bloom in Lindstrom and of course David Bloom’s big family in Center City. Incidentally, David’s daughter Irene also worked for Dr. Frank Bloom in his dental office, Than of course we also visited with the August and Alfred Bloom’s in Chisago City. Oh yes, we had a great relationship with all of the Bloom clan. Than there were times that we would take the train to visit the Edward Bloom family in Maple Island, Minnesota. Their place was only four miles from Marine.

When **I** was thirteen and **Joe** was eleven, the **Doctor Anton Rose** family came to Marine to visit Anton's mother, **Christine Bloom Rose**, who lived next door to us. While there, **Cousin Dr. Anton**, who was a research chemist, gathered some of our neighbor kids under the large maple tree and gave us a loud and clear, scary lecture on the ill effects to the human body in the use of any tobacco products, especially cigarettes and cigars. He listed many adverse physical ailments that could result from using tobacco. That lecture, by a person who was at this time doing much research on the subject, convinced most of us to abstain permanently. Some didn't. He said "A small minority will not suffer seriously, but a majority will."

Eventually **Winnie** was hired as an assistant to the Marine postmaster. She loved the job and worked until retirement. She got to know everyone in the community, including all of the "summer" people. The situation was gradually getting better. I drove a delivery truck for **Roy Strand's** store in Marine. The first day on the job I dropped a crate of eggs, and they all broke. When my brother **Joe** and I went out on deliveries, Roy would always say, "Hurry but don't drive fast!"

There being no high school in Marine, **Grandmother LeVine** invited me to attend Anoka High School and live at the LeVine home. As a boy I was determined to be a railroad engineer, but Charles Lindbergh changed that! After graduation I attended and graduated from the famed Parks Air College, the "Harvard of the air" as it was called. That was true. Kindly **Edwin Leffler,** who was married to **Anna Rose,** financed tuition. Parks Air College was in Cahokia, Illinois, across the river from St. Louis, Missouri. It was an excellent school with very strict discipline and superb instruction. By mid-1940 I had paid off my Park's tuition debt to kindly, generous Mr. Leffler. What a relief! I received a very nice letter of congratulations, thanks and encouragement from him. Winnie received one too.

Consolidated Aircraft Corporation in San Diego, California, employed me in February of 1936 where I flew many different planes and was I was even a test pilot on the USAF B-36 - the largest airplane at the time. When I flew around the Marine area, north of Minneapolis and St. Paul, I would let my mother know ahead of time so she could be outside to see me. Up to this point I was "married" to my "airplanin" career but then in , 1954, a very attractive young lady was hired into the flight-training department. Her name was **Dorothy Grace Crower** (b. 9-24-1933, d. 7-17-1987). We became friends - good friends. Later, she became secretary to Chief Pilot Harwel. One day he said, "**Lindy**, you ought to marry **Gracie**. You will never again find a person like her." I said, "I would try, but if we join, she will leave your employ." He said, "Oh no! She is the best secretary I have ever had. She puts sunshine into the entire flight department." So we were joined on June 18, 1960. She was seventeen years younger than me. A perfect union! Then along came **Roger Bruce** (b. 7-18-1961) and **Eric John** (b. 2-7-1963).



"Beans" the dog, Ralph and Joe LeVine, Richard Thompson, and Anna "Pete" Rose. It would appear that only Pete knew how to make camp!

Back: Harold Anderson, Roger and Eric LeVine
Front: Marla Murphy, Gail Anderson Murphy, Grace and Ralph LeVine

Grace was a super mother, school and church worker. She had many talents. She was the winner of the San Diego County Wedding Cake Design and Baking Contest three years in a row! She

went to the hospital for corrective surgery in 1986. There, at the hospital, occurred seven massive mistakes, and she was unable to cope. The Lord called her on July 17, 1987. During her 18 month stay in the hospital I visited her 640 times!

Roger is an expert on auto racing engines and works for his Uncle Bruce in the Crower Cams and Engineering Factory. He is always inventing something.

Eric is an engineer with a very large construction company and is a graphic design artist in Seattle, Washington. He married **Carole Patricia Amptman** on December 10, 1988. She retired from management with the Nordstrom Corporation. They have a son**, John Anders LeVine**, born on November 24, 2002 and more recently, another son named Brad Anderson.

I stayed with Consolidated. In the production flight department, we flew the initial shakedown and checked flights on the new airliners as they came off the production line. I also flew for the flights research department that did the entire test and certification flights on the new experimental and proto-type aircraft. I loved it. It was a fantastic career with all the types of aircraft. I stayed with this superb company to retirement in 1976. "All of us "old guys" in the aero industry were so glad that we were brought into this world at the precise bracket of time that the aero industry was just beginning. We shared in the development from the old stick and wire air machines up through supersonics and rocket propulsion. What a blast!"

Ralph LeVine

Joe Levine (April 10, 1917 – May 31, 2006)

Jack Leffler and I would spend lot of time together in the summer. One summer, **Jack** had a Franklin auto. The Franklin had an air-cooled engine. We put a raft on the front of the thing and drove to Square Lake, and this shut off the air circulation. The engine just kept on running after we turned the ignition off because it got so hot! I believe **Stanley Seashore** with us, too. Another time, **Laura** brought us to the Upper Lake St. Croix that is source of the St. Croix River. We got all the way down to Marine. We would spend a lot of time canoeing on the river. One time, when we came down the river, we borrowed **Marian's** umbrella tent. When we got part of the way down, we put a hole in the wall of the canoe. We had to take a piece out of her tent to patch the canoe. I always wondered if **Marian** ever noticed it.

Before **Dick Rose** would come to visit in Marine, the **Rose** girls were all worried that the neighbor across the street was going to teach **Dick** some bad words. Well - it was sort of a reverse situation.

I drove a delivery truck for **Roy Strand's** store when I was a teenager. People would call in orders, and I would deliver them. They called the Ford model A pickup that we drove "the pig!"

During the winter, we would slide with the sleds on the roads because they didn't plow at that time, and the surface was slick all over town. We'd start up by the railroad track and go all the way down to the town. At that time the farmers, would drive to town with horses and a sled. We'd latch onto a sled and get towed up the hill. Then we'd wait at the bottom for another sled to come along and take us up again. We'd ice skate on the pond by the church. We also liked to bike down the Marine hills and not brake until we'd reach the bottom.

After graduation from Stillwater School, I went to the University of Minnesota for aeronautical engineering. The U was one of the few major universities where you could get a degree in aeronautical engineering at the time. Things were tough because I had to work my way through to make expenses. So, before graduation I terminated my education (out of funds) and hitch hiked to San Diego because **Ralph** was there, and that was where the aircraft industry was. With **Ralph's** help, I was employed in engineering at Consolidated Air Craft Corporation. I also lived in New Orleans in 1940 – 1946 because the company had a factory there during the war. I was a structural engineer. I had to determine mathematically whether the structure was strong enough to take the loads. Since it was during the war, I didn't have a car; I rode my bicycle all over. I rode all round New Orleans to anyplace within fifty miles. One day I rode around Lake Pontchartrain which was one hundred thirty-five miles! When the war was over, I returned to the University of Minnesota. I finished the aero engineering course and was graduated. With the years of experience at San Diego and the New Orleans Divisions, finishing at the "U" was "duck soup!" I then returned to Convair San Diego until I retired. Our mother would come out to California to spend winters with me. I married **Jewel Milke** (b.9-12-1923). **Jewel** graduated from Antigo High School in Antigo, Wisconsin. She was graduated with a B.S. in Elementary Education from Milwaukee State Teachers College in 1945 She taught one and one-half years in Wisconsin and the remainder of her teaching years in San Diego, California, until her retirement on .March 21,1981. We spent winters in Chula Vista, California, and summers in Marine. written August 17, 2002

Joe

Story of Joe LeVine, as told by his brother Ralph

I helped Joe get his job in Engineering at Convair by talking with various people in the Engineering Management Department. Convair ended up saying "Tell him to come out here-- job assured."

He then hitch-hiked to San Diego and went to work. Determined Joe! He was an excellent structural engineer, spending most of his time in San Diego. He did, however, spend 1940 - 1946 (WWII) in New Orleans working on the production of Convair's PBY flying boat.

When first employed by Convair, Joe hadn't as yet graduated from the University of Minnesota. After the War, he took a leave of absence from Convair and returned to the University of Minnesota to finish his education. He told me: "After working at Convair for four years, the course at the University of Minnesota was 'duck soup'." He then went back to work at Convair in San Diego until he retired.

Joe was also loaned out to several other aero companies, including the Douglas Aircraft plant in Long Beach where he helped them develop the large D-10 Airliner and the large USAF C-15.

Joe, with his "jewel" of a wife, Jewel, kept busy, and they did a lot of canoeing and skiing. Skiing was his favorite, having skied in a vast number of areas in the USA and some in Europe. Jewel, also a skier, was his faithful companion on many of these journeys. He had a good and interesting life.

Joe LeVine
April 10, 1917 – May 31, 2006

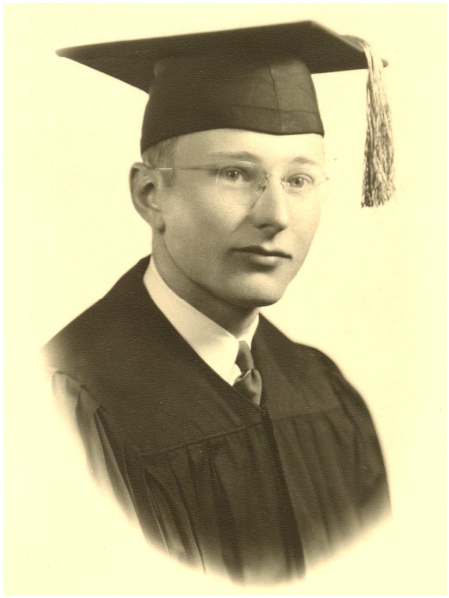
Lately, he told me, he didn't like the oxygen-restrictive life he had to now endure. He hoped he would recover but didn't think he would. In that case, "May the good Lord call me "home" rather than let me lie in bed forever." The Lord did at 3:30 pm on May 31, 2006. I was relieved that Joe had spent only a short time completely immobile and helpless.

Joe and I had many, many aero-technical discussions in our careers and we did a lot of skiing too.

We shall all miss him.

Ralph

Joe LeVine about 1920



Joe's Graduation from the University of Minnesota

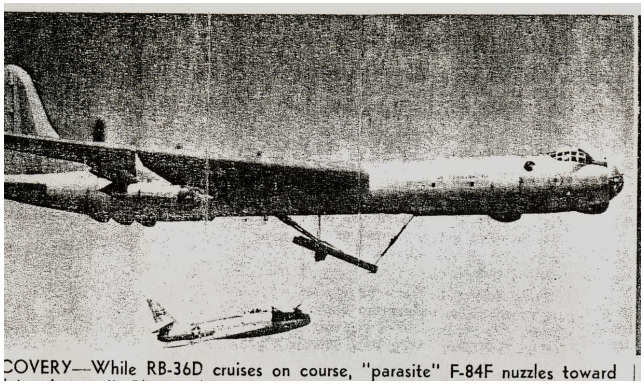
Ralph LeVine - the Test Pilot

"The Airline pilots make all the money – but test pilots have all the fun"

Having been in over 100 airplane emergences, I kept asking myself *"How did I become involved in all these things? Just lucky I guess!" (Being a test pilot is both fun and dangerous – Milan Bloom)*

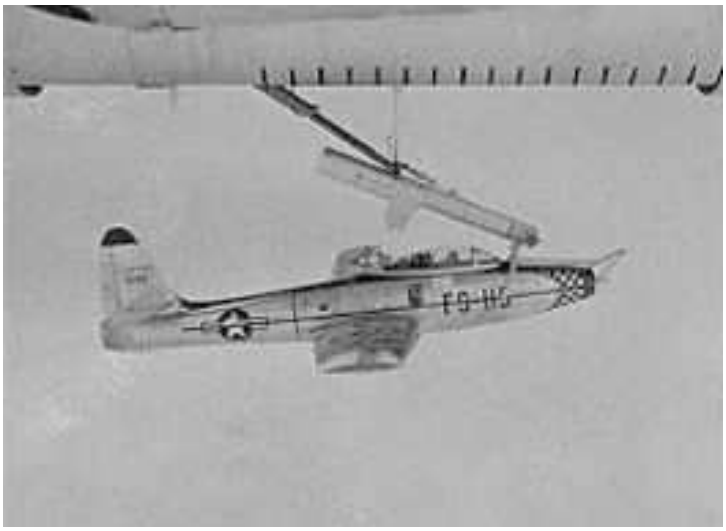
Ralph worked for Consolidated Aircraft Corporation from Feb 1936 until his retirement in 1976. **Ralph** didn't start as a test pilot but became one. He was educated at the famed *Parks Air College* which was considered the "Harvard of the Air Colleges." Parks College was in Cahokia, Illinois, near St. Louis and Ralph's education was financed with a loan from **Ed Leffler**. **Ed** was the husband of **Winnie Bloom LeVine's** first cousin **Anna Virgina Rose.**

Ralph is the test pilot at the controls of this Air Force GRB-36F ser. nr. AF49-2707. More about this below. Ralph flew the initial "shake down" flight of this specific B-36 on Aug 3, 1951. That was before all of the F-84F catching apparatus was installed. The GRB-36F had six radial engines facing backwards (pushers) and two pair of turbojets (in pods) underneath the outer ends of the wings. Sixty percent of Ralphs air time was as a test pilot.



COVERY—While RB-36D cruises on course, "parasite" F-84F nuzzles toward

The GRB-36F above, ser. nr. AF49-2707, was modified to be a mother ship to catch and provide in-flight hanger space for the F-84F. (See fighter coming up from below). The date is Jan 12, 1952 and **Ralph LeVine** is the command pilot in the above two pictures. On the right, we see the F-84F getting tethered by its nose; **Ralph also flew these test flights at night!** This was known as the FICON project (a contraction of "***Fighter Con**veyor*"). B-36's were 162 feet long, they had a wing span of 230 feet and a tail that stood 47 feet high. Their six radial engines had 19 foot diameter propellers and this GRB-36F was also fitted with four B-47 jet engines hung in pods from the wings (two jets on each side).



The trapeze operator catching the F-84F is in the camera compartment of the B-36. The trapeze operator performed his catching function by looking out of a big window.

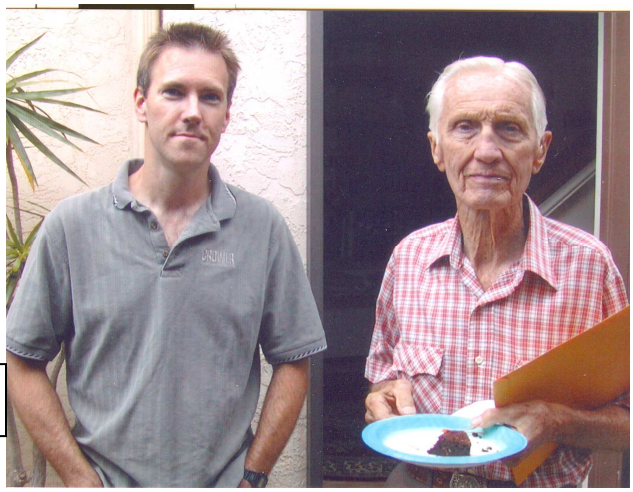
belly of the GB-36F

Again, as mentioned, **Ralph** is the command pilot flying this specific B-36 in this picture and the date is Jan 12, 1952. The picture to the left came from the internet, and it shows that **Ralph (**and the trapeze operator in the B-36 has caught the nose of the F-84. Now **Ralph** needs to catch the fighter's mid-section. After all of the attachment points were secure, the fighter is lifted up partway into the belly of the B-36 – far enough so the pilot could get out of the fighter and relax in the mother ship.

Ralph was the command pilot for 6 of 13 of these test flights

How Ralph LeVine Got the Nickname "Lindy" (As told by Ralph Himself)

"I was nicknamed '**Lindy**' by Anoka High School classmate, **Tick Smith,** because **I** was always talking about airplanes and flying. But then what really made the name stick was when co-worker **Charlie Kinney** (ex-USN) nicknamed me '**Lindy**' in 1936 because I talked a lot about my aero-hero **Charles Lindbergh**. After that, all of my co-workers and management called my '**Lindy**' and the name stuck. Oh, and **I** was even known by that name throughout the industry and, to this day, by neighbors and friends. Although flying **Charles Lindbergh** isn't how **I** got the nickname, twice **I** did fly a Convair-Liner 340 in which **Mr. Lindbergh** was my passenger. On one of those flights, he came up to the cock-pit and asked me to fly low along the ocean coast line so he could see the ocean wildlife. Also, of interest, is the fact that **I** made my first solo flight on Dutch Flats which is where **Mr. Lindberg** made his first flight in the famous *Spirit of St. Lewis*. Then my 2nd and 3rd solo flights were from the same field that **Mr. Lindberg** flew his heavy take-off tests from. He was a nice man and we had several long conversations. Incidentally, my high speed jet airline pilot training took me to Japan, Europe and Canada."



Ralph and son, Roger, September 2006

Ralph's Emergency No. 26
Out of More Than 100 Emergencies
"Explosive Decompression"

It was Wednesday, October 26, 1949, and I was one of a crew of 14 on a test flight in a B-36B near Eglin Air Force, Florida. Our mission was to test-fire the sixteen 20 mm guns on board and a newly designed bombardier's window (it failed – catastrophic!!). We left Fort Worth, Texas, before daylight and then climbed to 40,000 feet. I flew the plane to the "hot" area over the Gulf of Mexico, and we completed the tests. At 40,000 feet the other pilot, Phil Prophett, and I switched seats, and now Phil was the Command Pilot as we headed back to Fort Worth.

About this time, a vicious squall line was maturing across our path. At 40,000 feet we knew we couldn't top it but at 45,000 feet we would have to go through one of the "saddles" between the build-ups. We figured we would have plenty of room to spare. Climbing power was set and we were on auto pilot with the cabin pressurized to 11,000 feet. As we were passing through 41,000 feet, we heard a very loud **bang** and the cabin filled immediately with condensation. The pilot's cabin decompressed in 2 seconds and the rear cabin, where most of the crew were, decompressed in 15 seconds. The airplane pitched nose down and rolled sharply right - wing down. Those who could, flipped on oxygen masks, and Phil hit the autopilot release button and gained control of the airplane. He then began emergency descent procedures. We descended rapidly - faster than "red line" airspeed because we needed to get down to a breathable altitude. The emergency descent was relatively easy in <u>smooth air</u> (help from above). Not everyone could get their oxygen mask turned on right away and at 41,000 feet one can only last about 30 seconds before loosing consciousness without the help of another crew member. I looked back and down at Flight Test Engineer, Bill Griswold, and noticed he was unconscious and turning purple. After he was hooked up to oxygen, it took several minutes before he came around.

While all this was going on, the crew in the bombardier/navigator's compartment, called to announce that the entire large oval bombardier's window, along with all of their test paperwork and lunches were gone – blown out. If someone had been sitting in the bombardier's chair, he would have departed, too.

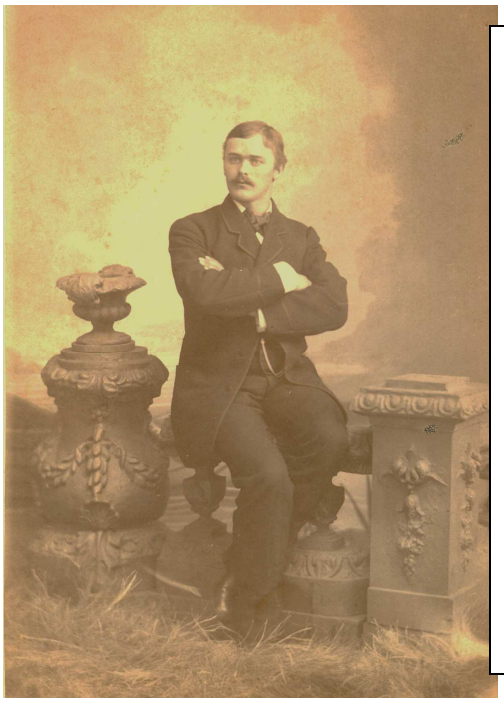
On the way back to Fort Worth, we had to divert around the storm by way of New Orleans, sometimes getting below 500 feet. That gave the citizens in Louisiana a good look the huge B-36.

Later, we learned that never before had a crew of 14 been the victims of surprise explosive de-compression at 41,000 feet, the second engineer even suffered a hernia.

Our attitude regarding emergencies was "Either you are going to make it or you are not, so why get excited? Just relax, take corrective action, and do it right the first time – you may not get a second chance."

Ralph the test pilot at 9 months, (September 1916) with his mother Winnie.

Miscellaneous Wilhelm Bloom Pictures



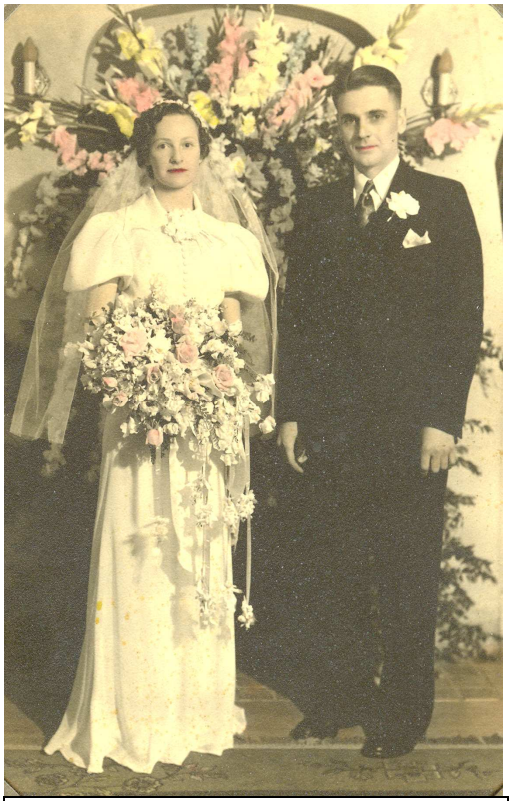
Left:
Wilhelm
the
accountant.

Right:
Seated: Carl
(Charlie)
Bloom's
daughter
Anna C.
Bloom,

&

Standing:
Winnie,
Wilhelm's
daughter.

Clarence Bloom and Jenny Brandt wedding 1909
Top left to right: Unknown, Paul Bloom,
Unknown, Winnie.



Clarence's daughter, Delores Bernice
Bloom, and Fred Stelle - 1937

Ralph LeVine, Anoka High School Graduation
Anoka, Minnesota - 1934

Joe LeVine, Stillwater High School Graduation
Stillwater, Minnesota - 1935

Jewel and Joe LeVine at their summer home in Marine-on-St-Croix (See house below)

Joe's widow, Jewel, and Ralph's son and family: Eric, John Anders, Carole, baby Brad

.

Above: Jewel and Joe LeVine owned this house in Marine-on-St. Croix until Joe died in 2006. Years earlier, it was Christine Rose's house. It is just to the north of the house that the Bloom brothers built for Wilhelm Bloom's widow , Mary. It is no longer in the possession of a member of the Bloom family.

Above: The Rose and LeVines were close neighbors and friends.
Back Row: Laura, Pete (Anna), Anton
Front Row: Estelle, Christine, Jennie

Clarence Bloom and friend
1907

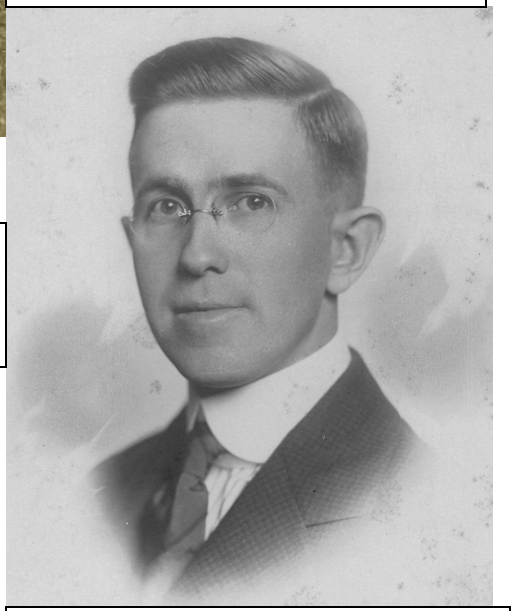
At left: Winnie Bloom LeVine and Gail Anderson Sonbuchner (b. 1942) – principle editor of this book.

I (Milan Bloom) asked Gail to identify who was in this picture; and I also said ***"I envy you, Gail. you knew our people. I didn't even know my grandparents."***

And Gail answered as follows:

"Yes, I feel very lucky to have known so many of the old ones. Winnie was always a lady. This picture was taken at Christine's place in Marine. I know this because there are more pictures taken on that day. Winnie was at all of our get-togethers. I really thought she was part of the Rose family when I was growing up. I can still picture Winnie, Estelle (or "Estella" an older spelling) ***and Laura doing the Christmas dishes while having much laughter and chatter. They always wore dresses back then, and I remember them with jewelry. I suppose Estelle owning the hat and jewelry store didn't hurt!"***

Clarence and his bride, Jenny Brandt, 1909.



Clarence Bloom, brother to Winnie. He was born in 1886 and died in 1952. Clarence was Ralph's uncle.

L to R: Laura Rose and Winnie Bloom LeVine

Harriet Lorraine Bloom b 1910
Delores Bernice Bloom b. 1911

Clarence and Jenny Bloom
Harriet and Bernice.

At left: Winnie and Theodore LeVine prior to 1918.

Below: Winnie Bloom (on the right) and Vernie Lorens. Taken from post card sent to Jennie Rose where Winnie wrote "Hello Jennie – Happy birthday greetings." Signed: **Winnie**.

Winnie (Wilhelmina) Bloom 1888 – 1962

Circa 1900.

At right: Winnie Bloom 1888 – 1962
and Clarence Bloom 1886 – 1952

"Sharing a milkshake"

Taken in Convair's Production Department, 1959, Ralph and Gracie.

Right: Paul and Lola Bloom wedding 1913.
Ralph was their "rent-a-kid" in 1921 – 1922.

60th Anniversary of the Lutheran Church in Marine: Oct 2 – 4th, 1932. Please find Winnie LeVine, Roy Strand, Notice modern clothes on Edith Nelson.

SENIOR CHOIR OF 1932

Left to right. Row 1: Edith Nelson, John Ramberg, Bertha Josephson, Vern Carlson, Lorraine Gus-ander, C. Arthur Ecklund.

Row 2: Winnie LeVine, Ethel Smith, Helga Eckdahl, Estella Carlson, Director Olga Zimmer, Ellen lobson, Mrs. A. J. (Ida) Johnson, Ella Ramberg.

Row 3: Roy Strand, Lawrence Carlson, George Nelson, Carl Johnson, Warren Carlson, Elmer Carl-on, Clinton Paul.

1. Mr. Alfred E. BLOOM (b.1861-Center City,Township 33,S7,L;d.1941-Chisago City,MN)

sp: Ms Minnie Elizabeth ROSENQUIST (b.1871;m.1891;d.1961-East Sveadahl Parsonage,SJ,MN)

- 2. Ms Arlene Laurine BLOOM (b.1893-Chisago City,MN;d.1996-Permly Home,Chisago City,MN)
- 2. Ms Elvice Lunell BLOOM (b.1895-Chisago City,MN;d.1998-Permly Home,Chisago City,MN)
- 2. The Reverend Wenzel Amos BLOOM (b.1899-Chisago City,MN;d.2000-Permly Home,CC,MN)
- 2, The Reverend Aner Orval Collin BLOOM (b.1901-Chisago City,MN;d.1981-Fossitome,Seatle,WA)

sp: Ms Josephine Melin ANDERSON (b.1902-St. James,MN;m.1927;d.1992-Firlane Terrace,E)

- 3, Ms Eleen BLOOM (b.1928-Thief River Falls,MN)

sp: Mr. John Henry BENGTSON (b.1926-Fergus Falls,Minnesota;m.1949;d.2008-)

- 4, Mr. Peter BENGTSON (b.1957-){ALos Angeles,CA)

sp: Ms JoAnn JOHNSON (b.1957;m.1980)

- 5. Ms Ellen BENGTSON (b.1991-Richland,WA)
- 5. Ms Susan BENGTSON (b.1994-Richland,WA)

- 4, Ms Barbara BENGTSON (b.1959-;d.Spokane,WA;d.2003)

sp: Mr. Guadalupe David GARZA (b.1945-San Antonio,TX;m.1980;d.2007)

- 5, Ms Amanda Barbara GARZA (b.1981)

sp: Mr. John DOUGLAS (b.1983;m.2008)

- 5, Mr. Jonathon David GARZA (b.1982)

sp: Ms Jessica HUMPHRIES (b.1986;m.2008)

- 6. Mr. Jordyn O'Reilly GARZA (b.2008;d.2008)

- 3, Ms Marilyn G. BLOOM (b.1931-Grand Forks,N.D.)

sp: Mr. Charles C. TAYLOR (b.1932;m.1957)

- 4, Mr. Scott TAYLOR (b.1959-Sen Louis Opisbo,CA)

sp: Ms Jann

- 4, Mr. Terry TAYLOR (b.1961-Hayward,CA)

sp: Ms Joy (m.1984(Div))

- 5. Mr. Max TAYLOR (b.1985-Grants Pass,OR)
- 5. Mr. Casey TAYLOR (b.1986-Grants Pass,OR)
- 5. Ms Sierea Emily TAYLOR (b.1988)

- 4, Ms Holly Ann TAYLOR (b.1963-Hayward,CA)

sp: Mr. Clay ROUNSAVILLE (m.1986)

- 5. Ms Taylor ROUNSAVILLE (b.1994-Medford,OR)
- 5. Mr. Tannon ROUNSAVILLE (b.1998-Medford,OR)
- 5. Ms Madison ROUNSAVILLE (b.1998-Medford,OR)

- 4, Ms Kristen TAYLOR (b.1966-Hayward,CA)

sp: Mr. Daryl WHICHELOE (m.1990)

- 5. Mr. Brian WHICHELOE (b.1991-Grants Pass,OR)
- 5. Ms Mali WHICHELOE (b.1993-Grants Pass,OR)
- 5. Mr. Gus WHICHELOE (b.1996)

- 3, Mr. Orval John Alfred BLOOM (b.1930-Thief River Falls,MN)

sp: Ms Jean NELSON (m.(Div))

- 4, Mr. David BLOOM (b.1952-St. Peter,MN)

sp: Ms Nancy CARTER (m.(Div))

sp: Ms Donna WALLACE (b.1955-Detroit,MI;m.1993)

- 5. Ms Keirstin BLOOM (b.1995-Los Gatos,CA)

- 4, Mr. Douglas BLOOM (b.1954-Fergus Falls,MN)

sp: Ms Lisa N NENTL

- 4, Mr. Todd BLOOM (b.1961)

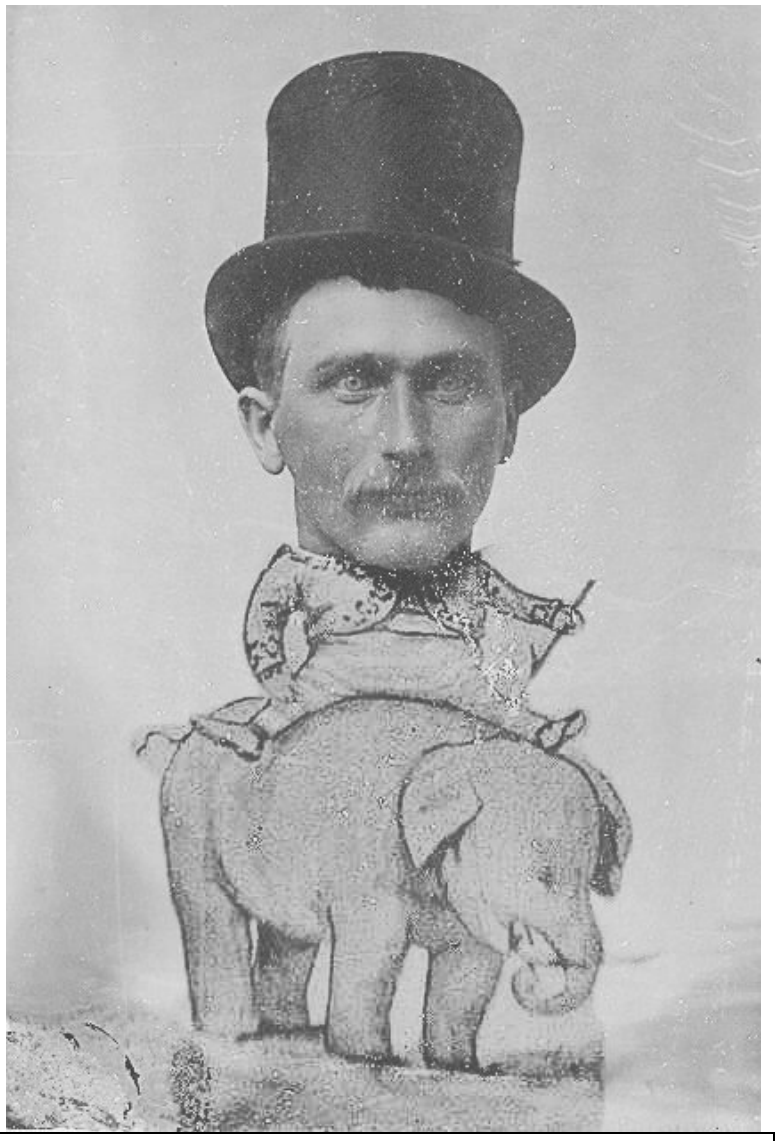
sp: Ms Kim BALTRUS

- 5. Mr. Nathan BLOOM (b.1993-North Branch,MN)
- 5. Mr. Seth BLOOM (b.1997-North Branch,MN)

4, Ms Nina BLOOM (b.1965-Fergus Falls,MN)
- sp: Mr. Duane MEIS (b.1965)
  - 5. Mr. Ryan MEIS (b.1991-Moorhead,MN)
  - 5. Ms Kaitlynn MEIS (b.1994)
  - 5. Ms Kelsey MEIS (b.1996-Moorhead,MN)

sp: Ms Alene SPICER (b.1939;m.1999(Div))

3, Ms Karen BLOOM (b.1943-Grand Forks,N.D.)
- sp: Mr. Miles DAVIS (m.(Div))
  - 4. Mr. Stephen DAVIS (b.1968)
  - 4, Ms Ann DAVIS (b.1971)
    - sp: Mr. Joseph REEVES (m.1992)
      - 5. Mr. Nathaniel REEVES (b.1993-Cottage Grove,OR)
      - 5. Ms Kimberly REEVES (b.1996-Cottage Grove,OR)
- sp: Mr. Lyle LEBOW (b.1944-Cottage Grove,OR;m.1991)



Alfred Bloom. Was he pretending to be Alexander the Great or what?

Alfred Bloom 1861 – 1941. Merchant, Undertaker, photographer, Qualified carpenter and Tinner. Minnie (Rosenquist) Bloom 1871 – 1961
Married 1891.

May 26, 1861 Alfred Bloom Oct 9, 1941
Sept 5, 1871 Minnie Elizabeth Rosenquist July 2, 1961

Lutina Glader and Alfred Bloom. Lutina was first cousin to Alfred's wife Minnie Rosenquist. Minnie's mother and Lutina's father were brother/sister. Since I [Milan Bloom] am a romantic, I think Alfred was sweet on Lutina Glader before Minnie.

Alfred was born on the Bloom farm on May 26, 1861. After attaining his majority, he left home and learned the carpenter's trade. This he followed for some time in Washington County; in 1890 he went to Center City. There he learned the tinner's trade and engaged in the hardware business with F. G. Lorens. After two years he disposed of his interests because of failing health and gave up active pursuits for about a year. He and his brother**, Johannes August Bloom**, established their present business in 1894 in Chisago City. J. A. Bloom & Brother General Merchandise Store was built in 1892 on the corner of Railroad Avenue and Old Towne Road. Alfred and August also owned a grain elevator and potato warehouse. They prospered and had a liberal patronage from the city and surrounding country. They were classed among the substantial merchants of their locality.

Minnie E. Rosenquist was born in Atwater, Kandiyohi County, Minnesota. Her father was a native of Sweden and became an early settler of Kandiyohi County. Alfred and Minnie had four children: Aner, Arlene, Elvice and Wenzel.

"Mr. Alfred Bloom is a man of good business capacity, is awake to the times and enjoys the esteem and respect of a large circle of acquaintances." (Information from Compendium of History and Biography of Central and Northern Minnesota. George A. Ogle & Co. Chicago. 1904. pp. 426.)

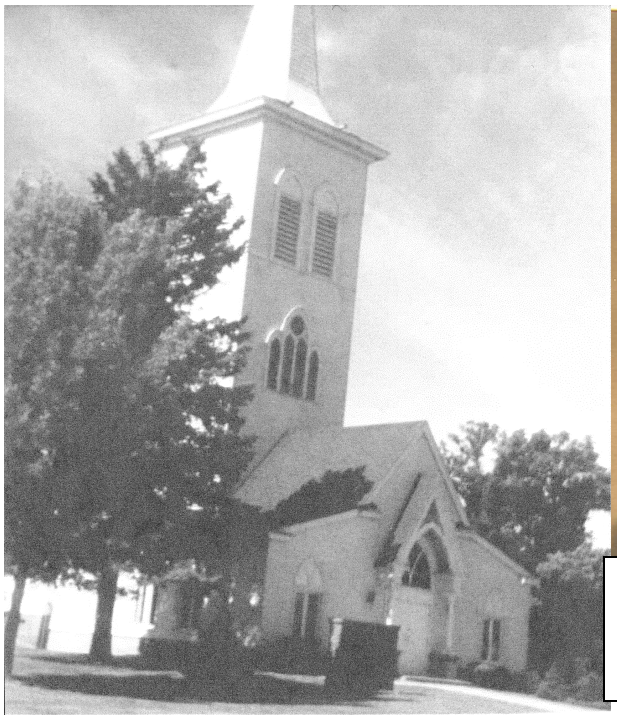
*A note from **Orval John Bloom** to Milan Bloom and his sister, Alice Jones:*

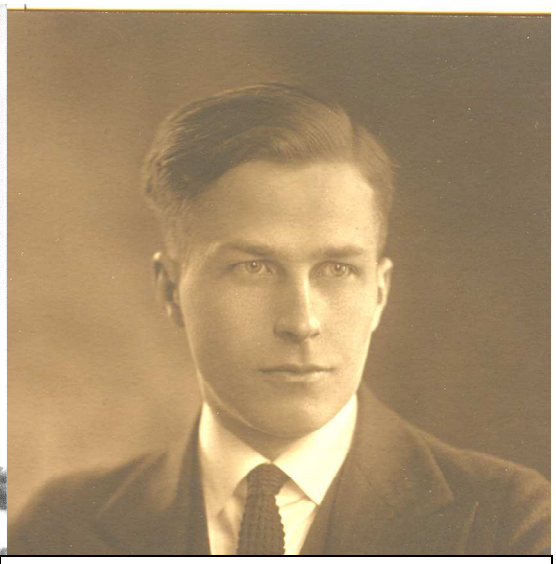
"Good to hear that you visited the place where **Wenzel** served …fun place. (St. James, Minnesota) I spent many weekends and holidays there when I was at Gustavus. I split my time there and in St. James where my mother, Josephine Anderson, grew up. She had a sister, Ruth, that I spent time with also. I remember very well going to the church attic to collect young pigeons that Arlene fixed for me to eat…good they were. I also went to the bell tower as they were having trouble in the summer with honey coming down the walls in the foyer. I dug out the honey and lowered it down the door to the bell. Then Arlene and Wenzel put on a kerosene stove and gently warmed it until the wax came to the top. There was good honey. I took most of the honey in the winter, so the bees did not survive, I think. Anyway, I had some good times in that lovely parsonage and with those wonderful folks of the congregation there…Wenzel was very proud of building the church at Arco. I should mention that my father, **Aner**, Wenzel's brother, also was a pastor and in Minnesota much of his career…first at Thief River where Eileen and I were born, and then at Grand Forks/East Grand Forks for fourteen years. Then he was called to Los Angeles where he saw to the building of a lovely church in Beverly Hills near Wilshire Boulevard. I went there a couple of years ago, and there on the wall was my dad and family as they had just had an anniversary celebration. What a lovely church that is. My dad, Aner Bloom, was so proud of that place like Wenzel of the place at Arco. Sorry for the lack of dates but my blindness and time have caused me to lose some of the exactness in my life. I type blind for the most part."

Wenzel A. Bloom was born in Chisago City, Minnesota. He graduated from Harvard University, Cambridge, SCB 1923 *(perhaps "SCB" means Bachelor's of Science. I do know that his field of study was chemistry – Milan Bloom).* He graduated from Augustana Theological Seminary, Rock Island, Illinois, Bachelor of Divinity, and was ordained Augustana in 1928. He was pastor at First Centerville, Iowa January 1928/January 1935; Bethany, Arco, MN January 1936/January 1943; East Sveadahl, St. James, MN, January 1943/July 1965.

At left: Wenzel's parsonage
Picture taken in September 2002.

Wenzel's mother, Minnie, died in this St. James, Minnesota parsonage in 1961. For 36 years, Arlene lived with her brother, Wenzel and took care of the domestic and social duties associated with running a parsonage.





At **left** is Wenzel's church in St. James, Minnesota. Picture taken in September 2002. **Above** is Wenzel. He retired in July 1965 and this was his last church.

We are here to celebrate ARLENE L. BLOOM'S 100th Birthday!

Arlene: 1893 - 1996

Arlene was born 100 years ago this week at Center City, Minnesota, on September 9th, 1893; but we are, for several reasons, celebrating today on September 5th - actually today is the birth-date of her mother Minnie Elizabeth. She was the daughter of Alfred and Minnie Elizabeth Bloom and the granddaughter of Gustaf and Caroline Bloom who came to this Chisago Area in 1853-1854. This is where Gustaf, with the help of his father-in-law, built a two-story log house on Bloom Lake where they continued to live their whole lives. She was the great-granddaughter of Eling and Anders Peter Glader, who also came to the Chisago Area in 1853, 140 years ago.

When the Gladers left Göteborg, Småland, Sweden, for the U.S.A. they were nine in number - parents and seven children, two older sons, Carl and Gustaf, and five daughters. The Gladers knew when they boarded the small wind-powered vessel for the U.S.A. that they would have a long difficult journey on the great Atlantic Ocean. Indeed it was long, seven weeks, a month and a half on sea. They had not gone far before one of their daughters, the second to the youngest became critically ill and she died. The Gladers had to ask the Sea Captain to bury their young daughter in the swirling cold waters of the Atlantic amid the tears and sorrow of the family and other passengers on the ship. They must go on! They safely reached Ellis Island, then New York. They boarded a train traveling to Chicago. Before they reached Chicago, a second tragedy occurred. The youngest of their four remaining daughters died, and she was buried in an unknown grave in the city of Chicago.

With further deep sorrow, the Glader family must go on – the railroad line ended in Chicago, so they took the familiar route of all the early comers to Minnesota – river boat down the Illinois River to St. Louis where they boarded a "paddle-boat." They paddled up the Mississippi river into the St. Croix River, presumably to Taylor Falls which was the Government Center. Minnesota was not yet a state, and here Anders purchased his deed on the south of Chisago Lake, facing the lake. Here Anders made a clearing for his new home.

We may believe that the terrifying seven weeks on the broiling Atlantic Ocean, the trauma of the early deaths of her two daughters, the building of the new home, etc., was altogether too much for mother Eling and she died, after only two years in her dreamland.

Young Anders now had the problem of the burial of his wife. After some deliberation, he chose a site on an elevation on the lakeshore - near the lake she had come to admire and love in her brief lifetime in America. Anders created, perhaps unwittingly, a cemetery in which a large number of neighbors and Swedish friends were buried. It came to be known as the "Swedish Cemetery", the first in Chisago County and perhaps in the State. After his burial beside his first wife, it became known as the Glader Cemetery, on Glader Boulevard.

With the death of mother Eling Glader, things began to happen in her home - her two sons, Carl and Gustaf, married two Porter sisters, members of the large Porter family who had come to the Chisago area in 1853. They took their brides to Atwater, Minnesota, where the state was offering prairie land for young couples to develop into farms. An older sister, Maria, was already there; she had married a Peter Hall who was a farmer outside of Atwater. The youngest of the two remaining Glader daughters, Sophie, married a Charles Quist of Center City, and she moved with him to a fruit farm in the State of Washington out west.

This isn't Alfred's steam engine but this specific one was manufactured in 1893 so it may be similar to the one Alfred operated.

The only remaining daughter was now Ellen left with her father on the farm – but not for long; a young man from England, Amos Harrison Church, had come from abroad to seek work in the flourishing lumber mills at Marine on St. Croix - found employment, and he also found a young bride, Ellen Christine Glader, whom he married and they were blessed with the birth of three lovely daughters, namely Clementine, Melvina and Wealthy.

Now a terrible time occurred. President Abraham Lincoln was in office for the nation when the whole nation became involved in a war - the CIVIL WAR. Ellen Christine's brothers and brother-in-law were called to serve as was her husband. They all responded, and they went to war - after the bitter and bloody war was over, her two brothers and brother-in-law returned home safely, but not her husband. He died in the conflict.

*(**Note**: Amos Harrison Church was the husband of Ellen Christine Glader and father to Clementine, Melvina and Wealthy Church. These girls were half sisters to **Minnie Elizabeth Rosenquist Bloom** – Wife of Alfred Bloom. Comment added Milan Bloom).*

Ellen Christine was now a widow with three children and a $30 pension a month from the nation. She became very lonely and with her father contemplating a second marriage, she felt the need to be closer to her older sister and her brothers in Atwater, so she decided that she should move, and she did move to live in Atwater - but, again not for long, a second marriage occurred for her, and she was moved, with her children to a large 304 acre farm seven miles east of Atwater on a lovely lake, Lake Elizabeth, and here Minnie Elizabeth was born.

Now, Alfred Bloom comes into our life story. Alfred was born on the Gustaf and Caroline farm on Bloom Lake. He remained on the farm until age 21. He worked in the northern woods cutting down trees that in the spring were floated down the river to lumber mills on the river. Alfred loved being a carpenter; and when his confirmation partner and brother William died from pneumonia, he offered to build a new home for William's widow and two children which is still in use in Marine. At this time, he received a state license to operate a steam engine. When Judge Carl Lendt organized a threshing crew for a threshing group, Alfred joined them to operate the engine. They threshed in the area and then traveled west, beyond the Twin Cities, and further west until the came to Kandiyohi County. One day they came to thresh on a large farm near Lake Elizabeth. When the crew came into the kitchen of the farm home, the kitchen of Ellen Christine Church Rosenquist, Alfred saw for the first time among her several daughters, Minnie Elizabeth. Alfred was deeply attracted to her; after several repeated calls at this farm, he offered her his hand in marriage which she accepted. Following a lovely reception on the farm they were united in marriage at the historic First Lutheran Church in Atwater, the Rev. J. A. Frost, officiating.

Alfred took his bride to Center City where he had rented an apartment on the second floor of the Solomon and Elof Peterson General Store, across the street from the Chisago Lake Lutheran Church. Minnie Elizabeth loved the new apartment because of her association with the Petersons who also had apartments in the building and with newfound friends at the church. In a year, Minnie Elizabeth's first child was born; her name was Arlene.

Arlene was baptized in the church in which Gustaf and Caroline were charter members, and father Alfred in his early childhood. Her Godparents were Frank and Nellie Lorens. They were lifetime residents of Center City. Arlene was given the name Arlene Lauraine. Frank Lorens had built his new home, the first home south of the church in the row of homes overlooking North Center Lake, now known as Summit Avenue. Alfred was now in a hardware-furniture business partnership with Frank Lorens in a building adjacent to the Peterson Store. About this time, Frank Lorens received a call from a representative of the Ford Motor Company of Detroit asking him to become their agent for the sale of the new Model T Fords which were just coming into market. Lorens was delighted for this invitation which he accepted. He proceeded to do two things - he built, or had built, a new double story brick veneer building on Main Street, Center City, for a garage. The building (a unique building, because of its floor accesses), is still in use. His second problem was what would he do with the Hardware-Furniture business on the hill. Frank approached Alfred to ask him if he would buy the business, or should they sell the business to a third party. The second proposal pleased Alfred and they accepted it. It pleased Alfred because for some time he had communicated with his younger brother J. A. Bloom, (Johannes August), about the possibility of opening a General Store in Chisago City. With the recent coming of the new railway in Chisago City, there was a need for a General Store.

The Bride's Bowl used to hold the baptismal water for Alfred's daughter Arlene (b.1893) and for the baptism of Alfred's great-grandson Todd Bloom (b.1961).

The two brothers proceeded on the project. They obtained a deed to Lot 2 in Chisago City. There was a vacant residence on the lot, which they moved further to the south, and it would serve as the residence for J. A. and Ida Jonason Bloom and their three children.

At the south end of the long store building which was located on the site of the present drug store in Chisago City, a several room apartment, with a large bedroom on the second floor - this would be the living quarters for the Alfred Bloom family.

The time came to move. Minnie Elizabeth was reluctant at first, because of her pleasant association with the Peterson's and the church; but move she must. So she packed her large satchel with necessary clothing and one day she could be seen picking up the satchel with one hand, and with her infant daughter in the other arm, she started the rather long walk down Summit Avenue to the new depot at the foot of the hill.

The Northern Pacific Railway, which came to the Chisago Lake area a few years previous in 1879, had built new depots in Taylors Falls, with a turntable, and at Shafer, Center City, Lindstrom, Chisago City, the rails going on to Wyoming to join the tracks from Duluth to St. Paul.

The train arrived, and Minnie Elizabeth with her satchel and daughter went on board for a lovely first trip (at least for Arlene) three miles to Chisago City. There they disembarked and proceeded up the street to the new apartment in the store.

Arlene loved her new home on ground floor, and she grew rapidly and was greeted after two years with a new baby sister; her name was Elvice Lunell. Elvice, too, loved the apartment and grew rapidly. She attended the local school, graduating from four years at Central High, St. Paul. After several terms at Teacher's Normal Training School, St. Cloud, Minnesota, she taught schools for 43 years in the State of Minnesota. After four years, Arlene had a new brother, myself. After another two years a second brother, Aner Orval Collin. Aner was ordained as a pastor; he served his first call of four years at Thief River Falls then a fourteen year call at Grand Forks, North Dakota, following that with a call to Los Angeles, Calif. His congregation at Los Angeles built a new church and parish house, on Olympic Boulevard in which he served for thirteen years. He received a Chaplaincy call to our Salem Home in Oakland from which call he retired to live near the home of his oldest daughter, with his wife, in Seattle, Washington, where he passed away.

Arlene attended school, the first school in Chisago City, in a school building moved from Old Towne to downtown, and located on the northeast corner of the City Hall yard. When the new school building was built, the older building was dismantled and moved across the street and rebuilt into a family residence.

Wenzel's Baptismal Dress 1899

Arlene continued her schooling on the University Campus, at SAUM; then she enrolled for a three years nursing training at Bethesda Hospital, St. Paul. Upon graduating and receiving her R.N. degree, she and a group of other recent graduates received an emergency call to come immediately to Hinckley, Minnesota, to care for a large number of severely burned and crippled patients from Minnesota's great forest fire (a huge fire which swept with a mountain of flame devastating three cities: Hinckley, Barnum and Moose Lake). The fire was intense, and the smoke of the flames covered almost the whole state of Minnesota.

Arlene and her father at the Bloom reunion at her Aunt Christine's – 1928. She was thirty-five years of age in this picture.

After this most difficult experience in training, Arlene continued her nursing career locally and in the Twin Cities, and then she served for several years in beautiful Coeur d Alene, Idaho, and Spokane, Washington. Then she had an opportunity to serve four years at

the new Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. This hospital is located on the Charles River, across from the well known M.I.T. and Harvard University.

Those four years in Boston completed Arlene's full time nursing career. She volunteered to serve for the thirty-six years of my ministry as a Parsonage Hostess. After our retirement, this continued with winter retirement in Florida, Phoenix, Sun City, Arizona, Golden Valley, Point Pleasant Heights and after 100 years of a long and healthy life in full retirement at our M.S. Parmly Residence.

I'm sure that Arlene thanks her Lord for her long years of life and for the scores of lovely friends she made upon the way; as she now thanks you dear friends and relatives who chose to attend her Centennial Anniversary. May God's rich blessings rest upon you all. Amen

*Final note from Wenzel**: "Please excuse typing omissions and errors in composition."***

Wenzel gave this speech on the occasion of his sister's 100th birthday. I limited my editorializing as much as possible - I just changed it enough to make it clear. Cousin Milan Bloom December 24, 2003

January 1806 Anders Peter Glader May 29, 1875

Anders Peter Glader is the grandfather of Minnie, Alfred's wife. This information was supplied to Aner Bloom by Mr. Irving Quist, born 1885 and son of Charles P. Guist and Sophia J. Glader (born 1845 died 1921). Note that both Grandpa Gustaf Bloom and Great-Grandpa Glader came to Minnesota in 1853.

ANDERS PETER (Nelson) GLADER was born in February, 1806, at Vesttorp, Furby Parish Kronobergs Lan, Småland, Sweden. His wife, **Elin Svensdotter**, was born January 20, 1808, in Juder Parish, Kronobergs Lan, Småland, Sweden. They left Sweden with seven children ranging in ages 17 to 3 years, on April 15, 1853. They sailed on a British sailing ship for a Liverpool stopover and change of ships. Continuing to New York after an indescribable voyage of four and a half months, they arrived in New York on August 29, 1853. When within a hundred miles more or less of Long Island, they were struck by a tornado which in modern usage are assigned names like Agnes and Bernice. They lost all their masts and sails; for three days all expected to rest comfortably on the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean at the next dip or dive, but the hull had strength enough to withstand the beating. Their water supply was in wooden casks, and many of them burst or sprung leaks. The children could not take the salt water, and the two youngest Gladers were lost en route mostly because of the lack of drinking water.

The name Glader was a Swedish nickname applied to a cheerful person with a ready answer. The survivor of the voyage were Carl Glader, Gustave Glader, Mary Ann Glader (Hall), Ellen Glader (Rosenquist) and Sophia Glader (Quist). Their mother, Elin, died two years after their arrival at Chisago Lake, Minnesota, on September 7, 1855. Grandpa A. P. Glader provided a half-acre burial plot which has been known as the Glader Cemetery since then.

A. P. Glader remarried **Anna Maria Nord**. The children by this last marriage were John (deceased); Victoria married August Schlemer; Solomon married Louise Andrews; Oscar married Laura Englebretson; Eugene married May Gaynor. Christine and Albert never married. A. P. Glader died on May 29, 1875.

Ellen Glader Rosenquist's daughter, Minnie Elizabeth, married Alfred Bloom. They were parents of Aner, Wenzel, Elvice and Arlene Bloom of Chisago City, Minnesota.

1920-1925 "The Classes", Harvard Magazine.

The Reverend Wenzel Bloom class of 1923, "turned 100 this past July" writes his grandnephew. "He was able to get around and his mind is as sharp as can be; he will be in the December issue of *Life*. He proudly displays a wooden Harvard crest and his diploma in his nursing home room, and many of the stories he tells revolve around being at Harvard"—or hitchhiking there and back from Minnesota! Bloom taught chemistry for a year before entering the ministry; he served in several churches in his native state.
From a book in the Waldorf, IA College library that lists all ELCA pastors present and past.

Interview with Wenzel Bloom, Son of Alfred and Grandson of Gustaf Bloom

I've been asked to give the story of Gustaf Bloom and Gustav Collin coming to America. For reasons unknown, Gustaf wanted to leave Sweden, and in preparation for that journey he made a trunk of light wood that he could carry on his back. The sailboat was in the Swedish Harbor. There were no motors at that time, so they had to depend on the wind. It took seven weeks for the wind to blow the ship from Sweden to New York Harbor.

When he got to New York Harbor, he found the railroad station and a train that went from New York to Chicago. That was as far as a train would go at that time. There were no rails beyond Chicago, but there was a riverboat from Chicago to the Mississippi traveling down that river daily. They paddled up the river to the St. Croix River at Stillwater. He didn't leave the boat there. He continued to the first town north of Stillwater. There he put his things on his back and did not go into the town but into the woods unmindful of Indians, wolves and bears. He traveled through the heavy timber going west, west, west. He came to a little round lake, and he decided that was where he would like to have his farm. He put his travel things on the shore of the lake and walked to Taylors Falls that was the county seat at that time. There he got the deed for a 160-acre farm that became known as Bloom Lake. It is still known as Bloom Lake. It's near Center City and Shafer. There he started to cut down trees. He cut down enough trees to make a tiny log cabin. He purchased the doorframe and the door. The rest of it was logs he had cut and shaped together for his home.

Then he went to Stillwater to purchase supplies for the winter. When he got to the store, he heard another boat had come up the river. A family with four daughters had come up the river to Stillwater. Before they got to Stillwater, one of the women wanted to take a bath on the boat. Her father discouraged her from doing it, but she did it anyway and caught a violent cold. She caught a disease that was circulating at that time (cholera) and died on the boat. She had to be buried on the riverbank in the sand. We don't know where that location is.

When the boat arrived at Stillwater, they would not permit them to land. They had to go to a little island across the river from Stillwater. There they set up home. When Grandfather Gustaf heard this, he got really excited because they had come from a similar location in Sweden. He had things he would like to talk to them about. He purchased a basket of food and found a rowboat on the riverbank. He rowed across the river to the island. When the boat struck the island, three women came out. One was a beautiful woman. They had an interesting conversation, and he learned that she was single and marriageable. He offered her his hand in marriage. She backed away from that proposition because of the way that he appeared (his long beard and long hair). The other two women came out, and they heard about the proposal. They urged their sister to accept him. He looked like a pretty good man. She did, and they were married in Stillwater. He took his bride and the food that he had purchased for the winter and went to Bloom Lake. (*Actually they weren't married for another year – Milan Bloom*).When she saw the little log cabin, she was disappointed with it. It was so tiny, but they made it nice to live there during the winter. In the spring her father came to make a visit. When he saw the tiny cabin, he, too, felt it was too small a home. He persuaded them to build a larger cabin. They cut down enough trees to build a two-story home. It had a huge fireplace that burned logs. I recall walking in there as a boy and looking up the chimney. It was so large. The original

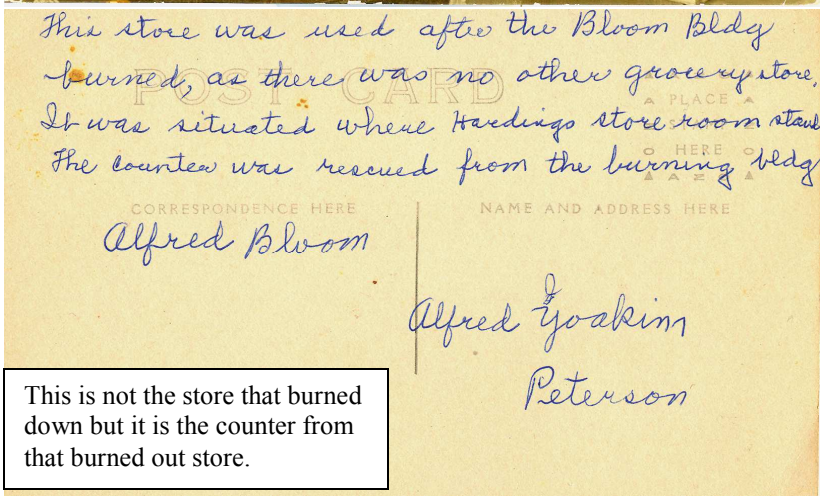
Alfred and Minnie Bloom. Arlene in back, Elvice in front

cabin had a doorknob that interested her. They had never seen a doorknob like that before. It was made out of porcelain.

There were thirteen children born in that new home. There were nine boys, and one of them died as an infant. The other eight continued on in Bloom Lake. One of them was father Alfred, and there was Frank who became a dentist, a long time and lifetime dentist in Lindstrom. One was the Registrar of Deeds (David), and two of them were farmers. One went to Warroad, Minnesota, and the other went to Center City.

Dad grew up on the Bloom farm, but he didn't like farming. He did odd jobs like carpentry. He built a home for his sister in Marine on St. Croix when one of the boys had died from pneumonia. There were four girls and eight boys. Two of the girls died in early life, but two of them continued. One was Aunt Christine, and she married a man who had a mill in Marine on St. Croix. Emma had a mercantile store downtown in Marine. Aunt Christine had a number of children who died (reportedly from RH negative blood factor), but there were four that lived; three girls and one boy. She took the four children and went to Gustavus Adolphus College and worked as a maid, so they all could get an education. They all graduated from Gustavus. One of them married a professor of a Luther College (Jennie); and one of the girls taught girls out on the east coast (Laura). The boy was a chemist (Anton), and he became a professor of chemistry at the University of New York. They all did very well.

There was a grain-thrashing machine crew in Center City, and they needed an engineer to run the thrasher's steam engine. They went and got a license, so dad was a steam engine operator. He operated south of the Twin Cities. He came to a farm in Kandiyoki County, and they ate dinner there. It was while they were eating dinner, he met one of the daughters. He was so impressed with her that he brought her to Center City as a wife. They had an apartment across from the church. That was where Arlene was born. Dad had a partnership with a furniture store. Kline was his partner and had come from Michigan. He wanted him to sell the new Ford that was on the market, a Model A. He was so willing to do that, that he went downtown Center City and had a double garage built there. One entrance was on the street side and one side was on the hillside for the mechanics to work in. It's still there and is an interesting spot. He came to dad and wanted him to buy his partnership.


This store was used after the Bloom Bldg burned, as there was no other grocery store. It was situated where Hardings store room stands. The counter was rescued from the burning bldg
POSTCARD
A PLACE
HERE
CORRESPONDENCE HERE
Alfred Bloom
NAME AND ADDRESS HERE
Alfred Joakim
Peterson

This is not the store that burned down but it is the counter from that burned out store.

Dad's brother in Chisago City built a store in town now that a train was coming into town. We bought a long lot, and my dad and uncle built this store. There was a vacant lot on the lot. Uncle and his family of four, Ida and the three children, occupied it. On the southwest corner of the store building, they built an apartment for us four. The three of us were born in the store. The store had eight departments. It had a large grocery area, women and men's clothing, a wall for shoes and in the back of the building was a hardware store and a post office. That's when my uncle became the postmaster, and he continued to be the

postmaster for the rest of his life. Early one March a clerk lit a fire to warm up the building. He filled the furnace in the basement with a lot of flammable fuel, set it on fire and left it alone while he went somewhere else in the building unmindful of the furnace in the basement. It got so hot-so red hot-that it started a fire in the roof of the building. Father had been in Omaha with a load of potatoes. This was potato country at that time; some of the greatest potatoes were raised here. He came home that night, ate a late breakfast and the school bell rang. He said there must be a fire somewhere and went to look through the kitchen window. He could see the flames in the roof of the store. He put his hat on and ran down to the store. He saved some of the records, one of the counters and some of the sales things they could use-that he did use after the fire that burned the building completely down to the ground. The foundation was still intact, and they decided they would rebuild, but they would build with cement block my uncle said would not burn. That building is still there. The cement block building includes a confectionary, restaurant and drugstore now.

We never worked in the building as kids. About that time I decided to go into the seminary. In the upstairs in the mercantile building there was a furniture section with all kinds of furniture and an elevator. There was no electricity at that time. In the front of the building there was a telephone operator and a place where women were making hats. At that time every woman had to have a hat; the fancier the hat was, the finer the fellow she could find, so they were making nice hats; all the hats were burned in the old building.

I was four years old when we moved into the big house next to the barbershop. It was a two-story beautiful house, but we only lived there one year. A farmer came from somewhere, and he wanted a house in town. He didn't want to drive his horses anymore. Dad sold it to him, and he bought a seven-acre lot at the edge of town. That's where we made our home. I remember it very well. We had a wonderful place of heavy timber, a great place for a kid to play. We had a piano box from the piano for the girls, and that was our playhouse. We crawled in and out of that big box the piano had been encased in! Down on the lakeshore we built wig-wams and covered them with shellac. We had Indian names; I've forgotten my name. It was a beautiful lakeshore. We had a potato warehouse and a grain warehouse where the store bought potatoes and grain. It was successful from the very beginning. The railroad was there, and that great train would load up back of the potato warehouse. They'd load the freight train with potatoes. Dad usually went along with the train to different places in the cities in the south to sell Minnesota potatoes. The train came everyday in the morning and early in the evening.

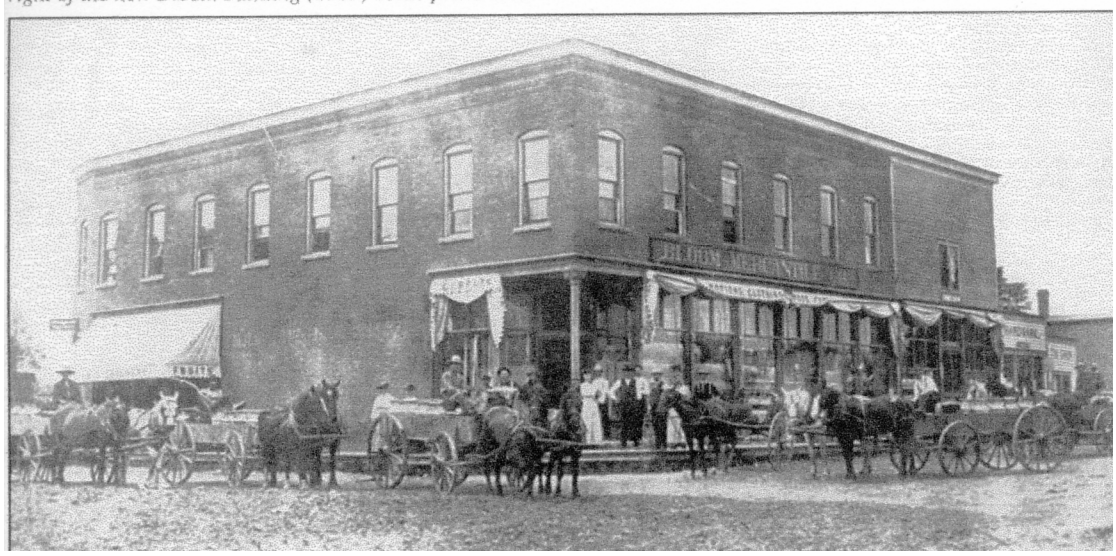
Church of Alfred's family in Chisago City, Church known at that time as the *Swedish Lutheran Church*. Church burned in 1909. Picture taken from the penny postcard mailed to Elvice Bloom.

On Sundays it was a big day when fishermen came out to Chisago City. When the train came, the townspeople would gather around to watch the train come in. The fishermen would jump out of the train and run to the different locations to get a rowboat to get out and do some fishing. In the evening they'd usually come with a gunnysack full of fish and put it in the train. How they tolerated it, I don't know, but they did. They brought a lot of fish back to the Twin Cities to distribute among their friends.

There was a resort in Chisago called the Dahl House that was popular with the wealthier folks in the Twin Cities. (in the summer in the Gustafson's place – I don't know how the Gustafson's plays into this . Dave Bloom comment.) They had rowboats for rent, and the Dahl House was a very popular place. I worked there at the bowling alley. My brother and I worked setting up pins in the bowling alley down on the lakeshore. I also worked rowing the boat and got $1 a day for rowing all the way out to Swimmers' Island. We went every morning with a basket of fresh bread from the city and brought it to the store. It attracted an awful lot of customers. They were after that bread. (Dave Bloom's comment: My dad, (Orval) John Bloom says that the kids were not allowed to go to the Dahl House because there was drinking there.)

Dad built a blue house on the corner of the seven-acre lot for retirement. It wasn't any smaller. It had three bedrooms upstairs and one bedroom downstairs. I had to chop and carry wood every day. Aner didn't do much; he liked to sit and read. We had a room in the basement called the fruit room that was filled with shelves, and they were covered with bottles of that canned fruit. We had a garden. Father had three cottages built down on the lakeshore for friends. One was for the Holmes and Olson families from St. Paul. The families would stay all summer, and the father would come out every night and go back every morning. They were lovely kids.

In 1892 August and Alfred Bloom built the first store in the community. It is the wooden building seen to the right of the new Bloom building (1903) in the photo below.



In Memory of
ALFRED BLOOM

Date of Birth
May 26, 1861

Date of Death
October 9, 1941

Date and Hour of Service
October 12, 1941, 2:30 P. M.

Held at
Zion Lutheran Church
Chisago City, Minn.

Clergyman
Rev. E. H. Baker

Place of Interment
Fairview Cemetery

In Memory of —
MINNIE ELIZABETH BLOOM

Date of Birth —
September 5, 1871

Date of Death —
July 2, 1961

Services at —
Zion Lutheran Church
2:00 P. M. — Thursday, July 6, 1961
Chisago City, Minnesota

Clergymen —
Rev. Russell Knutson
Rev. H. E. Sandstedt

Organist —
Mr. Mansfield Johnson

Singing By —
Mr. O. John Bloom

Interment —
Memorial Cemetery, Lindstrom, Minn.

Casket Bearers —

Roy Strand	Frans Rosenquist
Ralph Bloom	Reuben Johnson
Lewis Rosenquist	Rudolph Dahl

ANDERSON FUNERAL HOME
Edgar & Beth Anderson - H. Hayden - A. Benson
Lyle Johnson, assisting

We had three railroad stations- Chisago City, Lindstrom and Taylors Falls. There

was a round table at Taylors Falls, so the engine could be turned around and head back again. They had to build two tresses; father helped on that in Lindstrom before he was married. One was over a hundred feet high! We used to walk across it. We wondered what we'd have done if a train would have appeared. We decided we'd hang over the edge, but it never happened. Thank goodness! I had a pair of skis to ski down the hill in back of our house onto the road. Dad built a street down to the cottages, and it was a pretty steep hill! We skied on the lake and skated on the lake. We just about lived on the lake! We had an agreement with the school, that we could go to the lake during lunch. When the bell rang twice, we had to leave the lake, take our skates off and hustle back to the school. We all went to the same school.

Arlene, born 1893 and Elvice, born 1895

I went to school in Minneapolis because they didn't have a senior high school class, so I lived with Aunt Lil and went to Central High School. I graduated from there, and from there I went to Gustavus for one year and then on to Boston to Harvard University for three years for a degree in chemistry. I wanted to be a doctor. On the way home Arlene came out there, and she did some work at the new hospital Boston had built. Boston is just across the river from Harvard, and Arlene worked there. When we were coming home, she persuaded me to think about the ministry. I said I'd been thinking about it very seriously. She asked why didn't I go to the seminary, so I did. I spent three years in the seminary at Rock Island, Illinois. There were thirty-two graduated from there. I was in Centerville, Iowa, at First Evangelical Lutheran Church for seven and one-half years. I then had an invitation to come to Arco, Minnesota. I was there for seven and one-half years. While we were in Arco, we built a new church because they were working in an old congregational building that had an old pot-bellied stove in the middle of the congregation and a platform in the front where the speakers stood. I wasn't happy there at all. One time when Dr. P. A. Mattson was visiting, we were sitting on the front porch of the parsonage. There was a big lot down below by the street where the little leaguers were about to play baseball. I said that I'd like to see a new church built down there. He said go ahead, go ahead! He endorsed it, so I brought it up to the congregation and asked if they'd like a new church. Every hand went up! They all wanted it, so I released this plan of what I would like and sent it to an architect in Minneapolis. He got all excited about it and drew up the plans for the new church and all the material it would take to build it. I presented it to the congregation, and they approved it. Pretty soon they came with a horse and scoop and scooped out the basement. Some of the young fellers scooped out the foundation. It was a brick building. The farmers came with their saws and hammers and went to the lumberyard in town and got the lumber. We got this church. It was a beautiful little building. It took all summer to build the church. My next calling was in St. James, Minnesota, and I was there for twenty-two years. I was sixty-five, and that was the time to retire. We were suppose to retire at age sixty-five. That's the story.

Alfred's Great-Granddaughter ***Barbara Bengston Garza*** *(Alfred→Aner→ Eleen)*

January 9, 1959 – July 27, 2003

Barbara was born on January 9, 1959, in Spokane, Washington. When she was sixteen days old, she became the daughter of John and Eleen Bengtson, and sister to Peter in Edmonds, Washington. She was baptized in May of 1959 by her grandfather, Pastor Aner O. Bloom, in Bethel Lutheran Church, Los

Angeles, California. She was confirmed in June of 1974 by her grandfather at St. Peter by the Sea Lutheran Church in Edmonds, Washington.

While she attended high school, she participated in Pep Club, Swedish Club Choir and the Special Jazz Choir. She toured the United States with the Youth for Christ Choir and arranged for a Swedish exchange student, Leif Nelsson, to live with her family for a year. She graduated from Woodway Sr. High School in 1977.

She attended the music program at the Lutheran Bible Institute in Seattle, Washington, for one year and then joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1978. After graduation from M.P. School and qualifying as an expert Rifle Woman, she was stationed in Okinawa, Japan, where she met G. David Garza.

Barbara and David were married by her uncle, The Reverend Wenzel A. Bloom, on June 14, 1980, at St. Peter by the Sea Lutheran Church, Edmond, Washington. Both Barbara and David were stationed at Camp Pendleton where their daughter, Amanda, was born in 1981; a son Jonathon was born in 1982. They were stationed in Okinawa, Japan, where Barbara was discharged. The family moved to Shelton in December, 1994.

Barbara worked as a secretary for Shelton Memorial Park for five years and for Walmart for three years. She was a member of Faith Lutheran Church, sang in the church choir and was president and treasurer of the Faith Lutheran Women's Group. She loved to sew and made costumes for productions at the Shelton High School and Halloween costumes for employees at Walmart. She and her husband won honorable mention, third place, first place and second place in the last four Shelton home decorating contests.

Barbara was a very caring, loving and generous person, and in this spirit her corneas and heart valves were donated so that others might see and live.

A celebration of the life of Barbara Garza was held on August 13, 2003, at Faith Lutheran Church in Shelton, Washington. Amanda Garza sang "The Perfect Fan", Jon Garza sang "His Eye is on the Sparrow", Kristin Ziama sang "O God of Love Our Rest and Hope", life stories and reflections were given by aunts Karen Lebow and Marilyn Taylor and Scriptures were read by Peter Bengtson.

"Let us not mourn our loss but rejoice in the wonderful memoires of how they enriched our lives for the short time they walked with us."

Barbara was only 44 when she died. If you need to reconcile with someone, do so now because no one knows the day or the hour -----Milan Bloom

Comment from Dave Bloom (Aner→Orval→Dave) says of Barbara: I had heard that her biological father was a boxer, that Eleen worked in a doctor's office, and heard of baby Barbara through that connection. Once, when I was young, perhaps 10, or 12 Barbara came to visit us in Woodland Heights in Fergus Falls. Barbara and I took a great liking to each other. Dad had to explain that cousins were off limits but it didn't keep me from carving her name in a tree in our pasture.

Aner and Josephine Bloom family to R: Eleen b. 1928, Marilyn b. 1931,
Orval John b. 1930 – cute little bugger.

Aner, Josephine, baby Eleen 1928

Sometimes Pastor Larson would come and at other times students or others from the college would have charge of the services. The congregation was thus variously served for the next two or three years until Pastor Aner Bloom accepted the call in 1927.

Pastor Aner Bloom Accepts Call to Thief River Falls

Mr. August Westlund was called to serve the Augustana Congregation after Pastor Larson had severed his connections with Thief River Falls. He continued to serve until the successor, Rev. Aner Bloom, then a student in the Seminary, having accepted a call, had arrived on the field.

REV. ANER BLOOM
1927-1930

Pastor Aner Bloom took up his work in the Augustana Lutheran Church in 1927, coming directly from the seminary. A fine spirit prevailed in the congregation during his ministry and several important advances were made. The membership was increased materially. Improvements were made upon the church property. If it could have continued as it started it is very possible that the status of this congregation would have been quite different from what it is today. The church felt the loss keenly when Pastor Bloom after his brief ministry resigned and left the field. The congregation suffered a set back, which gave to the successor a handicap, which was felt in his ministry from the very start.

The following story was written by Orval John Bloom (he goes by "John"), son of The Reverend Aner and Josephine Bloom. Most of the details came from John's sister, Eleen Bengtson, as she is older and has a better memory of that time. His sister, Marilyn, was five years old, John was six, and Eleen eight. This was before their sister Karin was born and the story takes place in 1936. Please note that this story is about a 1936 car trip and roads and cars weren't what they are today.

In 1936 our family went on a trip to Montana by car because our dad, The Reverend Aner Bloom, wanted to see Glacier National Park. My mother and her mother, Thilda Anderson and the three of us kids, Eleen, Marilyn and I were along. Our main stop was Kalispell, Montana to visit a friend that our grandmother, Thilda, had helped move from Sweden to a farm in Montana. This friend of grandmothers lived on an irrigated farm, and I remember floating the canals with sister Eleen. There was this boy that wanted to follow her.

Mom and Dad went to glacier park while the folks from Sweden and Grandma Thilda took care of us kids. After Mom and Dad went a ways into the park, they came to a picnic ground that was

full of people because of a rock slide down the road. While waiting, they saw a group of security men and a touring car with an open top. The security men were going around interviewing folks in the picnic grounds and eventually came to Mom and Dad. Then the security men invited Mom and Dad to go with them to see the people in the big open-top car. Well, in the car was President Roosevelt and First Lady, Eleanor. As it happened, the President and Mrs. Roosevelt wanted to talk to someone and decided a preacher from Grand Forks, North Dakota would be interesting; so they sat together in that open car and talked quite awhile until the road opened.

What was talked about, I do not know, but Dad said it was interesting because the President was so intelligent and well informed about so many things. Of course my folks followed the Roosevelt's closely for the next few years

I think, it was the following year, that the three of us kids stayed in Chisago City for four or five months. We stayed with Grandpa Alfred and Grandma Minnie while our parents went to tour Sweden and the holy land. We went to school in Chisago and our aunt Elvice was our teacher. Our Grandfather lived on Old Towne road in Chisago City, across from the Dahl house. He and his brother August owned the Bloom Mercantile in Chisago, including the post office and telephone exchange.

O. John Bloom

Bethesda Lutheran Church,
Augustana Synod Rural East Grand Forks, Minnesota 1930 – 1944
Pastor Reverend Aner Bloom and His Wife Josephine

As written by Orval John Bloom July 2009
Edited by Milan Bloom

Marilyn, Eleen and I were the children of this pastor. It was September 1930 and I was only two months old when my father took this call. We were in Thief River Falls, Minnesota before that. Of course I don't remember much at that age but all of us kids have many memories and we loved that country church. It was six miles north of East Grand Forks, Minnesota and was one of two churches in the parish. The other one was in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Bethesda church was right on a curve in the road and it felt like we would drive right into the church when we approached by car. It was a lovely spot on those plains where all was flat and mostly treeless - except where the church stood. A mile closer to town was the Norwegian church – few, if any, trees there.

Dad had two services each Sunday (one was in Grand Forks) and he was known for his heavy foot in the car. The road to the church was straight as could be so you could tell when the pastor was coming - because of the dust. I can remember comments from the members that he was on the way so it was time to ring the bell. I was already there because those farmers took me - the PK "Preachers Kid" - for a time each summer. The sister church in Grand Forks was less than a block from the rail yards and in that block there was a chicken processing plant, a burned out laundry and of course the rail yards. Not a very good place for an active young boy like me.

Typical of rural churches was the fact that women and children sat on one side and the men on the other *(Note: this is a carryover from the "old country" with the men sitting on the south side and the women and children on the north. Well, it makes good sense – the south side was warmer. Comment added- Milan Bloom)*. Of course there was always a hat or scarf on the women. The preaching was in Swedish. My dad spoke some and my mother grew up with the Swedish language so she was his help in that way when he prepared the sermon. Sermons in Swedish were ok but soon the church council asked if he would rather preach in English. There were, by this time, other folks in the area that spoke other languages and also, there was also that Norwegian Lutheran church less than a mile away.

The church itself was in a lovely grove of trees and they were the only trees nearby. Very few trees on those plains. The cemetery was beside the church and that was where we played during Ladies Aid. Well,

it was natural to hid in the cemetery because the stones made good places for us kids to hide. Every one came to both Ladies Aid and Luther League in those days - even the men. The church was heated with a huge furnace in the basement and the only place where heat came up was a big grill so we could see the red heat of the furnace. Wood and coal was used for fuel and one of the members had to come very early to start the fire and bring the water for coffee. The drinking water was always brought in a milk can with a dipper hanging nearby. Coffee was always on the stove and it was made with one cup of coffee grounds, a whole egg and then these ingredients were dropped into boiling water and set aside to settle. Oh boy, that was good coffee – well at least it smelled wonderful.

We had a pump organ that Clara Thureen played with gusto and skill. I can remember her getting all sweated up during a hymn. Eleen, my sister, played well enough to relieve her in later years.

At the Christmas program the place was loaded with presents because so many of the members were related and that was where they gave out their gifts. Then ribbon candy and apples were in order. I remember well my mother putting me in red underwear and something on my head, I was to be a "Juletompta" and I would go down the aisle and play jokes on folks. I have not heard much about the Juletompta since but I have some Juletompta elves from Sweden. (A "Juletompta" is a Christmas elf that was said to live under the front steps. It would come out at Christmas time and play jokes on everyone such as hiding your socks in the morning or putting straw in your wooden shoes. Oh yes, I wore wooden shoes when I dressed up like a Juletompta and these shoes came from Sweden - or so I was told.

Every summer we had a picnic and auction to raise money. Folks brought all sorts of things to auction off including a lot of Swedish things - very good stuff - plus we had ice cream and soda pop. That was the only pop I can remember having when I was a kid. Two bottles were the limit. Big day that was. Lots of kids to play with and all of them seemed to be my relatives in a way that was so typical of those people. These were hard times on the farms with only a crank telephone and no electricity. Incidentally, most of the telephones were on "party lines" so we could listen in on conversations. This was called "rubbernecking" and of course we did it. The parsonage had the same crank telephone but we did have electricity.

I can also remember threshing season. I learned to drive the grain binder, which cut the grain and tied it in bundles. At first the farmers I stayed with used horses and later a tractor. I learned to put the bundles into shocks but that was such hard work that I avoided it!! *(Eight bundles to a shock and my dad, Roy Bloom, could shock 30 acres per day. Milan)*

← ← ←

Then during threshing, I forked the bundles onto a hay wagon, drove it to the thresher and pitched them in to that huge machine. This was a busy time on the farms and I sure came back to the farmer's house dirty where there was a pail of water and a towel by the door. Then I did the chores with cows to milk, crank the cream separator, chickens to feed and pigs to slop. A farm was a tough but wonderful place to work, and I learned how things operated. I have used those skills all my life.

During the war we were let out of school to pick potatoes as there was not enough help with the young men off to war. Many a sore back in those days but ten cents a bushel seemed like good money.

Orval John Bloom

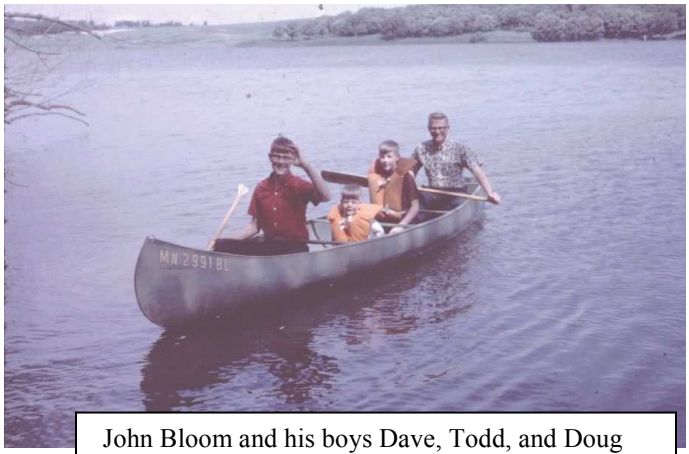
The Day My Tractor Fell Through the Ice

As told to Milan Bloom
by Orval John Bloom Himself (Alfred → Aner → Orval John)

Forward: The following story of how Cousin Orval John Bloom's tractor (he goes by "John") fell into the drink was told to me (Milan Bloom) by John himself on March 4, 2004. It was on that day that Sister Alice and I were visiting Cousin John at his winter home in Lake Havasu City, Arizona. I was without my pencil, but I did follow my usual custom of paying close attention to this oral rendition and then, at its finish, I committed it to my considerable memory. So then, below is a verbatim transcript of a crazy, albeit true account of a day in the life of one or our Bloom cousins. If you feel so moved you should call JOHN and ask him if there are any other details that should be recorded. I think you will agree that it is one of the goofiest tales you have ever heard. ***Milan Bloom March 2004***

Well, It happened at my home near Fergus falls, Minnesota, in the cold, cold, bleak winter. It was in the mid-nineteen sixties, about 1965, I would say. We lived in the house we built on the shore of Opperman Lake near Fergus falls, Minnesota. It's a shallow lake and was used by my family as a place to canoe and such. It also provided much recreation in the winter as a place to ice skate and play with our snowmobiles. We had a nice rink on that small lake too, which we maintained by keeping the snow shoveled off and by giving it frequent ice surface flooding. We even had a warming house on the shore and lights so we could skate at night. Oh, it was lots of work and my oldest son, David, took on the major responsibility. The biggest task, of course, was clearing the rink after a snow. We usually did this with wide hand shovels, but when there was a deep snow, it was necessary to use my antique F-30 Farmall farm tractor with its front mounted snow scoop.

Well anyway, one day son David was using that old F-30 to plow the snow off of the rink; he was doing a fine job of course, he always did, and then *I* came to *help*. I did what he had done, driving back and forth, back and forth, back and forth – well you get the idea. The job was boring. I started daydreaming. It was then that it happened! I drove the front wheels of my antique tractor over that snow bank we had put up around the perimeter of the rink. I did it on accident. (*Note: Dave remembers this differently: According to Dave, his dad decided to expand the rink by pushing the piles of snow out. Well, naturally, the ice beyond the rink was thin*



John Bloom and his boys Dave, Todd, and Doug on Opperman Lake, Fergus Falls, Minnesota

and weak because it was so well insulated under all of that deep snow).

Well horrors of horrors, the front end of my tractor broke through the ice. Then as the front end started going down, the front end started pulling the whole machine into that cold, miserable bleak Minnesota winter lake. I quick got a huge jack and put it under the front of the tractor, but that only caused my Farmall to go deeper into the drink. As I watched, I cried out with a loud voice **"Woe is me, oh Woe is me, my old F-30 Farmall is gone"!** *(Dave says: "Dad came running up to the house in a panic saying the tractor was sinking into the lake.)*

Next thing I know, the tractor was all the way under water with only the framework of the loader showing above the top of that tractor! What a mess! I tried to console my self by repeating over and over and over again that it was just a Farmall - a utilitarian machine which probably deserved to drown. Then I looked at the bright side (it's hard to see a bright side when your tractor has just disappeared into drink). Well, yes, it could've been worse. How, you say? To this day, I don't know! Then too, in those days, I worked at the Fergus Falls State Mental Hospital. Just imagine the torment my colleagues there would give me - if you get my drift. Oh yes, they were going to have a field day!

John, Dave and Todd, at Grandma Nelson's home in Fergus Falls. This place was across the lake from ours. The horse was named Princess.

Lucky for me, I had a neighbor that was more cool headed than I. He told me to put some chains on the front end (of the tractor that is) and one on each rear wheel so we could hoist it up later – much later - after the ice froze back up. I did as he said and we put some large poles in the freezing cold water at each corner of the disaster area. We then fastened some oak planks horizontally across these posts and then we waited. We waited about a month for the ice to refreeze solid.

Nina Bloom 1967. John's Daughter in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. (*As of 2011 she is still Dad's favorite per Dave)*.

At long last, the time came to put some huge chain hoists around those horizontal oak planks and prepare to hoist that old machine out of the water. After the chain hoists were in place, we cut the ice all around that forlorn, drowned rat, sad excuse of a tractor. Oh, did I mention that we used a chain saw to cut the ice? We then raised the whole thing out of the water, put it back down on some other planks and pulled it to safety. Now, remember that the tractor itself, with attached loader, weighed in excess of 6,000 lbs. and then there was the weight of the ice that came up with the tractor. Oh yes, we were hosting over 6,000 pounds and the vertical lift must have been 6 - 7 feet. Oh, and don't forget, this work was being done in the deepest cold of a miserable Minnesota winter.

We did get that machine running again. I had a good mechanic and he took much of the tractor apart to get it dried out. Some parts had to be replaced but eventually he was done with it and it worked better than ever. Well, better except for the fact that the glass sediment bowl on the bottom of the gas tank froze up every time it was really cold. But then in time, even that moisture problem cleared up.

Son David says he was sure glad he was not the one that drove the old tractor into the drink on that cold, dreary, bleak, miserable Minnesota day. And, fortunately for David (unfortunately for me) I had no one to blame but myself! Well, all is well that ends well – or so I am told - and that rink was the reason that my

boys were active hockey players all through high school. Also, that rink provided ice-skating for many folks, young and old, in the area. Oh yea, I took no pictures – bummer. O. John Bloom

(Dave's comment: I remember the tractor and the oil slick on one corner of the rink. The snowmobilers would drive out from town to take a look at it. That rink was a huge success for the neighborhood, as all the kids would come down after school and every weekend to skate and hang out. Pump Pump Pullaway was a favorite game. Dad had gone around looking for donations for the warming house and a neighbor, who worked for the power company, wired in the lights).

This isn't John's tractor but it is identical to the F-30 Farmall he dropped in the drink.

From John Bloom, son of Aner: "The house down by the lake belonged to Wenzel and his sisters. While I was growing up, Grandpa had three cabins down there that were rented out in the summer. Each day the breadwinner from those cabins would commute by train to jobs in the cities. I think he built them when they lived in the

The houses left to right - top to bottom:

1. Big house at (29046 Old Towne Road, Chisago City) Alfred's family moved here about 1904. It was on a 7 acre plot.
2. Retirement house that Alfred built next door and north of his first house. The address of this one is 29070 Old Towne Road. Alfred and Minnie moved here in 1930. Their grandson, John, assumes that Minnie felt that the "big house" was to much to take care of. Indeed, it did have five bedrooms and a huge kitchen and parlor.
3. Note house in the background with the patio deck. It is on the shore of Green Lake. This was the retirement home for Wenzel, Elvice and Arlene. This house is down by the lake at 10590 Bluff street. Bluff street comes up from the lake shore and meets Old Towne Road on the north side Alfred's second house.

'big house' on top of the hill (upper left). Actually, my Grandpa owned several lots along the lake. Not sure how far along the shore the lots went but I think Minnie's brother lived down the lake a ways. Alfred had a big garden down by the lake and an awful lawn to maintain particularly as part of the retirement house (picture no. 2 above) as it was on the hill and all the way down to the lake. He mowed about every day I think. No power mowers then. I recall grandpa fixing and oiling the mower. With respect to the new retirement house (picture no. 2 above) Grandma had flower gardens all around the lawn and we had a play house that we called Ann Arbor. There were grape vines all over that. The lake was so low that we played in the rushes all along the shore. Each of us had a play house stamped into the rushes and paths between. We could walk along the shore to the school across the way. It was after Grandpa Alfred and Grandma Minnie died and their retirement home was sold, that Uncle Wenzel and his sisters built the house on the lake shore. 'The big house' was sold to the Sprain's in 1930, the year I was born, so my dad and all grew up in the 'big house.' The Sprain's had a funeral home built on the other side of the 'big house' and grandpa would go over there to help now and again. I think the stone entry to the funeral home is still there. The 'big house' had a tennis court behind it so that's why my dad, (Aner), played tennis at Gustavus Adolpus. He also played flute, Piccolo and fife. Dad would sometimes get the fife out and play Yankee Doodle Dandy and do a short tap dance. My sister, Eleen has both the piccolo and fife and my daughter has the flute."

Orval John Bloom's house located on the shore of Opperman Lake in Woodland Heights, Fergus Falls, Minnesota. This is where the family lived when the tractor went into the drink. At that time, John was the CEO of the Fergus Falls State Mental Hospital.

When his hospital colleagues learned about his drowned tractor, did they try to assign him a bed in a ward – if you get my drift? Oh ya, John is a fun guy.
Comment added – Milan Bloom

15 *Den Store Hvide Flok* ..... Arr. by Edvard Grieg 230

SOLOIST: MERLE HOFSTAD

Behold a host, arrayed in white,
Like thousand snow-clad mountains bright,
With palms they stand—who are this band
Before the throne of light?

Lo, these are they, of glorious fame,
Who from the great affliction came,
And in the flood of Jesus' blood
Are cleansed from guilt and blame;

Now gathered in the holy place
Their voices they in worship raise,
Their anthems swell where God doth dwell
'Mid angels' songs of praise.

(H. A. Brorson)

V

16 *Alma Mater* ..... A. W. Anderson 3

17 *Silent Strings* ..... Granville Bantock 318

Bantock is another English composer who has done much work in collecting and arranging folk-songs. This song of his has received wide acclaim.

18 *The Broken Melody* ..... Jean Sibelius 230

Much of Finland's great epic poem "Kalevala" has been set to music by Finnish composers. This selection is in characteristic five-four meter.

19 *Land-Sighting* ..... Edvard Grieg

SOLOIST: MERLE HOFSTAD

Here is one of the most stirring choruses of the great Norwegian master.

THE GUSTAVUS MALE CHORUS

FIRST TENORS—

Dale Chellberg
Donald L. Conrad
Wayne Hulterstrom
Winston F. Lindberg
O. B. Lundeen
Allen C. Nelson
Delpho P. Peterson
Arthur E. Wickstrom

SECOND TENORS—

John C. Bloom
Duane Erickson
Bob Iseli
Donovan T. Lundeen
Everett Mathieson
Paul L. Swedberg

BARITONES—

Bud Christenson
Robert O. Collick
Dale W. Freyberg
Merle F. Hofstad
Lewis Peterson
James Wennblom

BASSES—

Orval John Bloom
Duane Flogstad
Roger J. Hanson
Douglas M. Johnson
Robert R. Johnson
John F. Lund
Ellery O. Peterson
Bruce L. Sandberg
Marold C. Strand
Dallas W. Young

This chorus is a student-managed organization. The officers are: President, Allen C. Nelson; Treasurer-Business Manager, Ellery Peterson; Librarian, Arthur Wickstrom; Public Relations officer, Bob Iseli.

Gustavus Adolphus College

St. Peter, Minnesota

...Presents...

THE GUSTAVIAN MALE CHORUS

PAUL KARVONEN, Director

DUANE ERICKSON and
EVERETT MATHIESON
Accompanists

Gustavus Male Chorus circa 1948. John C. Bloom - Second Tenor
Orval John Bloom - Bass

John believes the year was 1948 – his first year at Gustavus

PROGRAM

I

1 *To Thee We Sing* ..... Arr. by Peter D. Tkach

This composition, taken from the liturgy of the Russian Church, is one of the finest works of Mr. Tkach, prominent Minneapolis choir-master. The chant-like introduction is followed by a stirring second section that offers praise and thanks to God.

2 *Give Ear Unto My Prayer* ..... Jacob Arcadelt (c. 1514)

The simplicity and purity of this prayer have endeared it to Christian congregations for four centuries, yet it still sounds as fresh and vital as it did on the day it was written.

3 *Divine Praise* ..... Dmitri Bortniansky (1751-1825)

The composer of this well-known hymn of praise had a great influence on the development of Russian church music in the nineteenth century.

II

4 *I Wonder As I Wander* ..... Arr. by Horton-Niles

SOLOIST, BOB ISELI

5 *Were You There?* ..... Arr. by H. T. Burleigh

6 *A Dwelling For The Lord* ..... Arr. by Paul Karvonen

7 *Wondrous Love* ..... Arr. by Paul Karvonen

It is only in recent years that we have begun to realize that America has a rich heritage of folk music among which are to be found hundreds of spirituals and folk-hymns. Some of these, like "Were You There?", developed among the Negroes. Others originated among the early white settlers of America. "I Wonder As I Wander" is an Appalachian carol collected by John Jacob Niles. "A Dwelling for the Lord" is a folk-hymn dating back to Revolutionary days. "Wondrous Love" is another traditional "white" spiritual. The last two of these sacred American folk-songs are from the collections of George Pullen Jackson.

III

8 *O Breathe Not His Name* ..... S. E. Lovatt

This song, set to a text of Thomas Moore, is a fine example of contemporary British choral writing.

9 *Dedication* ..... Robert Franz

Franz must certainly be ranked among the very best song writers that Germany has produced. This number illustrates something of his remarkable gifts of expression.

10 *The Turtle Dove* ..... Arr. by Ralph Vaughan-Williams

SOLOIST: BOB ISELI

Interest in English folk-song has been greatly stimulated by the work of this eminent English composer.

11 *Forest Invocation* ..... Jean Sibelius

Sibelius received inspiration for many of his compositions while walking alone in the forests of Finland; his love of nature is reflected in this song.

INTERMISSION

PROGRAM

IV

(Each song in this Scandinavian group will be sung in its orginal language. We are indebted to Dr. Conrad Peterson of Gustavus Adolphus College for his translations.)

12 *Til Svenska Fosterjorden* ..... Arr. by Laurin

SOLOIST: BUD CHRISTENSON

To The Swedish Native Soil

1. Thou ancient, thou fell-crowned, free land of the North,
Thou silent, thou joyous land and fairest!
My heart, peerless country, enraptured goes forth,
To hail thy sun, thy skies, thy verdure rarest.

2. Enthroned thou art on thy memories high,
When earth knew thy fame; thence ne'er shalt sever!
Thy greatness still lives, nor ever shall die.
In life and death, dear North, I'm thine forever.

(Tr. by R. Dybeck.)

13 *Vermland* ..... Arr. by Paul Karvonen

SOLOIST: O. B. LUNDEEN

1. Oh, Vermland, thou beauteous, thou glorious land,
thou Sweden's crown, a gem so brightly burning!
Yea, even though I landed on some Elysian strand,
To Vermland I yet would be returning.
Yes, there I want to live my life and there to rest be laid;
and if some time from Vermland I take to me a maid,
I know, indeed, I never shall regret it.

2. Yes, when at last, my friend, you are about to choose a wife,
my counsel is, in Vermland seek your maiden!
There still are lots of girls left, God's gifts to gladden life,
and all so fine, with grace and sweetness laden.
But, if you there go courting, be merry then and glad.
The Vermland girls want merry boys and shun those who are sad.
The sad, indeed,—they merely get the mitten.

3. And the Vermland lad, he is, in truth, so happy and so proud
and fears no ill that threaten may to harm him.
And if to war he's summoned by Sweden's sirens loud,
no flashing swords or bullets will alarm him.
Yes, though the Russians 'gainst him in thousands be arrayed,
he manfully them faces and cannot be dismayed.
His choice is but: to die or win with honor.

(tr. by Conrad Peterson)

14 *Serenade* ..... Edvard Grieg

SOLOIST: DALE FREYBERG

Listen to us now, you leaning singer! The tones are streaming back warmly about your soul. The happy phalanxes of youth are chasing them into you under your window. The echo of the hearts is soaring into the blue sky, the sunlit blue, to which your silver tone is hurling it.

The procession of life goes further. The thoughts are waving like banners. One towers among the highest ones, is found in the foremost ranks. It comes from you. The admonishing rune of olden times, high on its pole, explains where you got your strength, lifting the land in the fire of your temperament.

(tr. by C. Peterson)

1. Mr. Johannes August BLOOM (b.1864-Center City,T3,S7,L7M;d.1939-Chisago City,M)

sp: Ms Ida Christine JONASON (b.1868-Shafer,Minnesota;m.1892;d.1956-Chisago City)

- 2. Ms Mabel Edna Olive BLOOM (b.1894-Chisago City,Minnesota,ABH;d.1976-Chisago City,M)
- 2. Ms Mildred Adelia BLOOM (b.1896-Chisago City,Minnesota,ABH;d.1992-Minneapolis Min,WMH)
  - sp: Mr. Reuben Ferdinand JOHNSON (b.1895-Stillwater,Minnesota;m.1920;d.1990-Minneapolis)
    - 3. Ms Marjorie Elaine JOHNSON (b.1921-Chisago City,Minnesota, d. Jan 6, 2012)
      - sp: Mr. Harvey Monroe SVEDBERG (b.1918-Darfur,Minnesota;m.1947;d.1992-Detroit Lake)
        - 4. Ms Laura Jean SVEDBERG (b.1950-Minneapolis,MN)
          - sp: Mr. Jay REKER (m.(Div))
        - 4. Ms Pamela Elaine SVEDBERG (b.1953-Minneapolis,MN)
          - sp: Mr. Steven FORRY (m.(Div))
            - 5. Mr. Adam FORRY (b.1982-St. Paul,Minnesota)
          - sp: Mr. Daniel FLESHER (m.1991(Div))
          - sp: Mr. Vance WUKKUS (m.1973(Div))
        - 4. Ms Jane Elsie SVEDBERG (b.1957-Red Wing,Minnesota)
          - sp: Mr. Cecil Merle BALLARD (m.1981(Div))
            - 5. Ms Katie Jane BALLARD (b.1983-Moorhead,Minnesota)
              - sp: Mr. Brandon THARP (m.2009)
                - 6. Ms Emma THARP
            - 5. Ms Anne Elizabeth BALLARD (b.1988-Detroit Lakes,Minnesota)
        - 4. Ms Kristine Ann SVEDBERG (b.1959-Cannon Falls,Minnesota)
        - 4. Mr. John Harvey SVEDBERG (b.1963-Cannon Falls,Minnesota)
          - sp: Ms DeAnne BLANCHARD (m.1991)
            - 5. Ms Alissa Nicole SVEDBERG (b.1995-Maplewood,Minnesota)
            - 5. Mr. Brian John SVEDBERG (b.1997)
            - 5. Ms Anika Marie SVEDBERG (b.2003)
- 2. Mr. Earl Rudolph BLOOM (b.1900-Chisago City,Minnesota,ABH;d.1927-Chisago City,Minnesota)

August and Ida's family about 1910. Mabel upper left 1894 – 1976, Mildred 1896 – 1992, Earl 1900 - 1927

8-4-1864 Johannes August Bloom 1-9-1939

Johannes August Bloom and
Ida Jonason's Wedding Picture
11-12-1892

August in 1937

Ida Jonasson – Mrs. August Bloom

August and Ida's
home in Chisago City

Below is from the Compendium of History and Biography of Central and Northern Minnesota. Chicago. George A. Ogle & Co. 1904. pages 423-424.

John August Bloom of the firm of J. A. Bloom & Brother and general merchants of Chisago, Minnesota, is a man of more than usual business enterprise, and he has met with pronounced success in his business ventures. He has gained an enviable reputation as a worthy citizen and enjoys a liberal patronage from all parts of Chisago County.

Mr. Bloom was born in Chisago County, Minnesota, in 1864. His father came to the United States from Sweden in 1853 and became one of the early settlers of Chisago County, Minnesota. He was a farmer by occupation, and our subject was reared on the home estate. He was the fifth in order of birth in a family of twelve children. In his childhood he attended the country schools. He completed his studies at the Northern Indiana Normal School where he completed a two-year course. He was graduated from the business department in 1890. He went to Marine Mills, Washington County, the same year where he had charge of a general store. He remained there three years. He and his brother, Alfred Bloom, established their present business at Chisago City in 1894. Out subject worked two years in a hardware store in Center City where he learned the tinner's trade which helped him in his work in Chisago. The present business was opened in a small building and was a success from the start. They now occupy a store fifty by fifty-six feet and have since added an addition of 48 by 70, two stories. It is now a stock company with a capital stock of $50,000-$75,000 being paid up. Mr. Bloom is president and general manager. They carry a complete stock of groceries, hardware, dry good and general merchandise. The firm owns the grain elevator and a potato warehouse in Chisago and ships about 150 car loads of farm produce annually. They are also interested in the Chisago City Co-operative Creamery Company and were the starters of the enterprise. Our subject acted as the first manager of the company.

John August Bloom was married in 1892 to **Ida Jonason**. Mrs. Bloom was born in Chisago County, her parents being early settlers of the county, having emigrated to that locality from Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Bloom are the parents of three children, namely: Mabel, Mildred and Earl R. Mr. Bloom was appointed postmaster at Chisago by President Cleveland in 1894 and held the office eight years. He has also served on the school board in his township and is a gentleman of active public spirit. He is a Republican and stands firmly for his convictions.

The Swedes who settled in Chisago County, Minnesota, near Center City, Lindstrom and Shafer were a tight-knit group who socialized together and helped each other. When August was appointed Postmaster of Chisago City, the post office was in his store until he built a building to house it. After the stock market crash of 1929 when the depression started, there were panic runs on the banks. Mr. Vanstrom, who was running the bank, got his money out quickly, but since he was president of the bank, August put all his assets in the bank to try to save his depositors' money. He was pretty well broke.

August and **Carl** (Charlie) wore quite a path between the Bloom farm and the Jonason farm next door. Carl married Helen Jonason , and August married Ida. Ida and Helen's mother, Anna Marie, was also Albert Berg's mother by Jonas Berg who was a Civil War soldier who got killed in the war.

Above Information taken from "The Svedberg Saga" written in 1996 by Marjorie Johnson Svedberg, granddaughter of August Bloom.

In 1858 the Territory of Minnesota became the State of Minnesota. By this time the "Swedish Circle" was bounded on the north by Almelund, on the south by Scandia, Chisago City on the west and Taylors Falls on the east. Into this area had come **Israel Jonason**, now a widower with a small son Charley. This was a closely-knit community with friends and neighbors helping each other. There was unrest between the southern and northern states over states' rights and slavery. On April 12, 1861, Fort Sumter was attacked and the Civil War began. President Lincoln called for volunteers. Israel Jonason left Charley in the care of Anna-Marie Berg, and he, with her husband Jonas Berg, journeyed to Fort Snelling to volunteer. Israel and Jonas were mustered into the Company D Third Regiment on October 22, 1861, at Fort Snelling. Israel Jonason was one of the survivors, but Anna-Maria's husband, Jonas Berg, died from Civil War wounds on October 15, 1863.

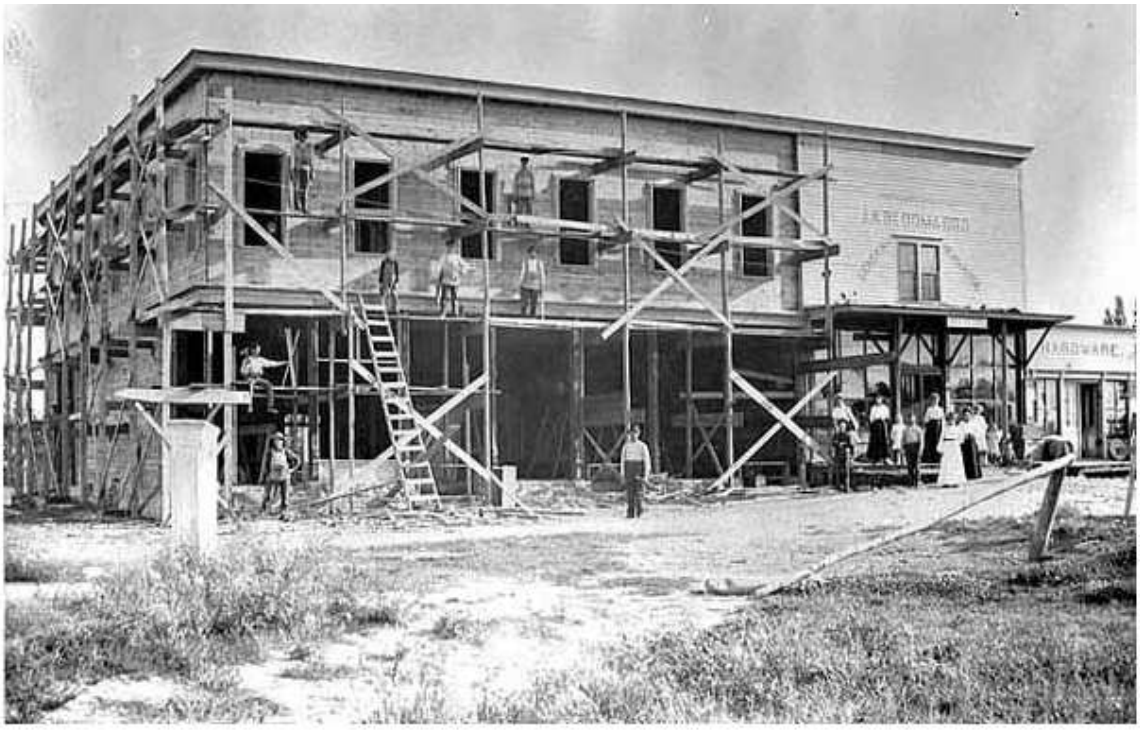
Israel Jonason Family: Albert Berg (Israel's stepson) is in the center back. Back row: Edwin, Helen, Albert Berg, Ida, Charlie.
Front row: Clara, Israel, Anna Maria, Amanda and Alfred on floor in front.

August and **Ida Christine Jonason** were married in 1892 and settled in Chisago City, Minnesota. August did very well financially and built a beautiful home next door to the school. It had running water and electricity before most of the other homes. She was quite tall and a nice soft grandma. She loved to have people in and always had coffee and goodies. In her early marriage, she had help housekeeping. A dressmaker came twice a year to sew for her and the girls. She made beautiful quilts and was an excellent cook. She fell and broke her hip and pelvis twice, so she was plagued with "rheumatism" for a number of years afterwards. After August died, she sold the house. The Nultons bought it; she and Mabel lived upstairs until they moved to a small house they had built. A neighbor remembered Ida as fair and lovely with shining blue eyes. Her house was always spic and span, and she was always trim and neat.

Most of the Bloom children had good voices and were interested in music. August sang in the Swedish Male Chorus in Minneapolis. His nephew, Paul, directed the group. August was a short, chubby, jolly man. In his younger days he went to a spa in Indiana for mud baths every year. He owned a dark blue Studebaker with plush upholstery and bud vases in the corners by the rear windows. This was the classic "drive to church on Sunday" car. When they did go to the "cities", he had the car completely gone over by the garage before leaving. Chisago City was a small town. One Christmas when it was snowing, and they were overdue to get to Mildred's, she made a long-distance call which was done only in emergencies. The operators left the line open, so my mom could hear Anna Palmer, the Chisago

Marge Svedberg and her family: Left to Right in back Jane, Pam, Lauri, John. Front: Mother Marge and Kris.
August Bloom was Marg's Grandfather.
Note: Marge died on January 6, 2012

operator, say there was no use ringing up August Bloom because she saw their car leave for their daughter's in Minneapolis about an hour ago!



Building Bloom Store, Chisago City.
Photograph Collection ca. 1900
Location no. HD6.72 p59
Negative no. 17848

Bloom and Alfred Peterson in the grocery store they opened after the Bloom store burned, Chisago
Photograph Collection ca. 1915
Location no. HF4.6 p39
Negative no. 17847

I should think that this is the F. A. Peterson that Joseph Bloom borrowed $400 from in 1910. Comment added – Milan Bloom.

Above is the picture on a post card Minnie Bloom (Mrs. Alfred) sent, Sept 26, 1907, to her daughter, Elvice. The postage was 1 cent. I can't fully make out the address and I can't quite read the note from Minnie to Elvice.

Below is a contemporary View of the J. A. Bloom & Brother General Merchandise Store - built in 1892

When August was in his late 60's, he developed leukemia. This was a newly diagnosed disease and was treated with x-rays. He lived longer than expected but died in January of 1939 at the age of seventy-five.

Information taken from "The Svedberg Saga" written in 1996 by Marjorie Johnson Svedberg, granddaughter of August Bloom:

Mabel was not expected to live at birth. She was small and born with a cleft palate and harelip. In those days surgery to repair these defects was not very sophisticated, so she had a noticeable scar and some speech problems. Both of her parents were overprotective of her and gave her special favors to try to compensate for her "disability". She was given piano lessons with a special teacher but was not interested enough to pursue that as a career. Since the cousins Aner, Wenzel, Arlene and Elvice were neighbors, they were together all the time. Once when the kids were sliding, Mabel broke her leg. They hauled her home on the sled, all crying, to have the grownups take care of her. They also heard the grownups talking about having Elvice's tonsils out, so they took her up to Dr. Flom. He performed the surgery in his office, and the kids hauled her home. They were proud of themselves for doing it! Mabel worked in the telephone office and then in the post office. She had to leave the post office when a directive against employing relatives came down from Washington. She also took a job in Minneapolis keeping house for an elderly couple. It was there by trial and error that she learned to become as good a cook as her sister, Mildred. When August had to quit as postmaster, Mabel returned to Chisago City and again worked at the post office until she retired. In Mabel's opinion she was not well and constantly went to different doctors and had many surgeries. She used the symptoms of others to describe her own. Vic Nulton said after his prostate surgery, he wondered how she was going to adopt his symptoms! She doted on her only niece and grandnieces. She loved playing the piano and continued living in Ida's home until some apartments were built on a resort near the lake; she moved there. Her eyesight was failing, so she then decided to go to Parmly Nursing Home where she enjoyed living until she died from either heart failure or pneumonia.

Mildred lived next door to the school by the time she started school. Sometimes they had teachers rooming at her house. They also had a gruff aunt who was the matron of the orphanage in Red Wing. When she visited, she made Mildred and Mabel wash and dry the dishes in separate rooms because they giggled too much! Mildred was very near-sighted. Until she got her glasses, she didn't know that you could see individual leaves on the trees instead of one green glob. It was thought she had an enlarged heart and was kept from active sports. As she grew up, however, she was a good skater. Because the lakes connected, they would skate for miles and have a bonfire waiting to warm up. Rather than dating and going out as a couple, they had picnics and outings as a group. Mildred attended the University of Minnesota Farm Campus where she was pretty homesick. She had never had to learn a lot of the cooking and sewing skills most of the other girls had grown up with. She worked as a telephone operator. During WWI she was busy with the Red Cross. A fund-raising play found her playing a Red Cross nurse to Reuben's part as a soldier!

Reuben Johnson was a short, scrawny kid during his school years and completely ignored by Mildred. During the time he went to Rasmussen Business School, he grew several inches. When he came home and Mildred returned from her school at the University of Minnesota, they discovered each other. Reuben went into the Army but was never sent overseas due to having flat feet. He spent most of his Army time running a commissary in Newport News, Virginia. He was nineteen years of age when discharged; Mildred was eighteen. They wanted to get married, but Mildred's father thought they were too young. He had them pledge to wait five years while Reuben could get a job and prove that he could support a wife. During this time Reuben's father lost his business, and his parents moved to Florida. Reuben remained in Chisago City and worked at the train depot shipping farm products. When they were 23 and 24 years old, August approved of their marriage. The bride's home had a wide-open staircase into a foyer; folding doors opened into the "parlor". They picked Aunt Christine's gladioli and cut greens to twine down the banister and made a bower in the parlor. Reuben's mother came from Florida, and the Bloom-Jonason relatives came and sang during the reception. Reuben had some fun-loving friends who kidnapped him long enough to have his bride worried. They were supposed to get to the "cities" that evening. Because of Reuben's kidnapping, they wound up spending their wedding night at Aunt Christine and Uncle Charlie's home. They next day they took the train to St. Paul, had their wedding picture taken and got on a train for

Moorhaven, Florida, where Reuben was going to work for his dad in his store. Reuben's mother accompanied them on their honeymoon that included sightseeing in Washington, D.C.

Arriving in Moorhaven, they settled into a small room in John and Carrie's house; the room was a storeroom. Mildred had been told that she would never have children due to an injury. Imagine their surprise and delight when she found she was pregnant. Things were not good in the crowded conditions, and the store was not doing well enough to support two families. In the summer of 1921 they decided to move back to Minnesota. Mildred being very pregnant stayed in Chisago City. Reuben and his brother-in-law, Earl, stayed at the YMCA in Minneapolis. Reuben found a job selling men's clothes at the Askin Marine Company. The two guys had such a good life that Reuben wasn't in a hurry to look for a place to live. On September 8th in the front bedroom of the Bloom house in Chisago City **Marjorie** was born. When nearly six months had passed, August issued an ultimatum to Reuben that he'd better find a place for his family, or he wouldn't have one!

Soon they moved into their first home, the upstairs of a duplex at 24th and Lyndale, Minneapolis. They bought furniture from the tenants. When Marjorie was a toddler, there was no place to play outdoors, so they rented a house at 48th and 4th Avenue South, Minneapolis. It was at the end of the streetcar line and the edge of town. Earl lived with them for a while. There were apple trees in the backyard and an empty lot next door for a garden. Some of Mildred's cousins were studying nursing at Swedish Hospital; on their days off Mildred and Reuben's home was open house for them to come eat, play cards and sing around the piano.

Their next move was only one block away to a larger house. By that time Reuben worked for the National Credit Clothing Co. About this time a Lutheran church had been started at 49th and Nicollet, Minneapolis. Since they didn't have a car, this was where they decided to join. Reuben was a Sunday School teacher and superintendent. The Augustana Lutheran relatives thought they would surely go to hell for joining an ULCA Lutheran Church! Mildred and Reuben rented their homes, so they moved fairly often as better locations occurred. They lived in a bungalow on Columbus Avenue in Minneapolis until the owner had to sell it. He offered it to Reuben and Mildred, but they didn't have the money to buy it. They lived in several different apartments. Reuben was working as a "extra" at Dayton's and was paid ninety dollars per month to be the secretary and janitor at St. John's Lutheran Church. A wholesaler friend offered to supply stock for a women's clothing store on 26th and Hennepin in Minneapolis. A seamstress shared their rent, but this was a poor time to start a business with so much unemployment and hard times. The store didn't last long. He did get to be a regular employee at Dayton's where he worked until his retirement.

Many of the Bloom cousins had settled in the Twin Cities, and there were "cousin parties" where they played Auction Bridge and had lunch late in the evening. This was before the days of babysitters, so the children played until they were given a snack and put to bed amidst the coats. They went to sleep to the sound of laughter and conversation. Since Helena and Ida Jonason had married Bloom brothers, the double cousins were very close and did many things together.

After retiring, Reuben and Mildred enjoyed spending winters in Florida and lived in apartments in Minneapolis in the summer. They were both active in church work. Reuben was very active in the American Legion. He was instrumental in setting up a nursing scholarship, and as Chef de Gare of the 40 and 8, he raised more than $500,000 for the University of Minnesota Heart Fund. They also sponsored parties at the Owatonna State School. In later years Mildred's eyesight deteriorated, and she had congestive heart failure. Reuben stayed active for many years. They decided to become residents of Walker Methodist Home and lived there until Reuben died in 1990 and Mildred in 1992.

Earl R. Bloom was born in 1900 and was a very intelligent boy. He went to Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. After graduation he roomed with Reuben at the YMCA. When Mildred and Reuben rented a house, he roomed with them. Earl went to work for his uncle, Bernard Slattengren, in Chicago in the mathematical area of an insurance company. He became ill with terrific headaches. Uncle Burney called Mildred to say that Earl wanted to come and stay with her. Before she could get to Chicago, August and Ida went to Chicago and brought him back to their home. Ida isolated him in an upstairs bedroom with shades drawn against the light that might bother his head. She allowed no visitors. Medical tests were poor, and the cause of the headaches was not known. In December of 1927 he opened his window and fell to his death. *(Information taken from "The Svedberg Saga" written in 1996 by Marjorie Johnson Svedberg, granddaughter of August Bloom.)*

"Ballad of the Blooms"

written by Kris Svedberg

(to the tune of "The Beverly Hillbillies" theme song)

Come and listen to a story about a man named Gus.
A poor ol'Swede, but a pretty good ol'cus,
And, one day he was plowing up his fields
When up in his head popped a wonderful idea:
"Move" it was…New Land…Opportunity!!!

Well, the first thing you know, ol, Gus is on a boat,
His kinfolk said, "Hey, Gus, we took a vote –
We think Minnesota is the place you ought to be"
So he loaded up his stuff and he headed out to sea…
America…New World…New Settlement

Ol'Gus finally made it to the good old U.S.A.
Staked out a home – the first Bloom property,
But then, he heard of a tale that was told –
A family that's trapped – and the story now unrolls…
Caroline…His Bride…Our Ancestor!!!

Without them both, well, none would be here now,
We're all glad they had the smarts to say "Hey, Wow!!"
"Let's get together, and we'll have ourselves a clan…
Make sure they get together just as often as they can!!"
Blooms, That Is…Excellent Relatives!!!

And now that you have heard from Gus and all assorted kin,
We would like to thank you all for kindly listening in,
You're all invited back next year to this locality
To have a heaping helping of this hospitality…
Bloom, That Is…the BEST…SIT a spell…
Y'ALL COME BACK NOW, Y'HEAR!!!

On the Right is
Ida (Jonason) Bloom
Wife of August Bloom

Unknown friend is on left.

Ida (Jonasson) Bloom on the left and Mrs. Weinhardt

August Bloom drew many pictures in pen such as the one on the left (I am aware of a dozen or more such pen drawings

Like Great Grandfather ***August*** and his Great Granddaughter ***Lauri***

Below is the painting I chose from among many many Lauri Svedberg paintings. Lauri is the Great Granddaughter of August Bloom. Lauri has an art studio in Northeast Minneapolis, Minnesota. The painting below illustrates Lauri's painting skill but it is not the painting of any Bloom family building site.

(Comments and picture selections by Milan Bloom. Lauri's painting used with permission)

1. Mr. David BLOOM (b.1868-Center City,Township 33,S7,L7M;d.1936-2329 Dupont Ave No)

sp: Ms Mary Elizabeth OLSON (b.1872-St. Paul,Ramsey County,MN;d.1944-Center City,MN)

- 2. Mr. Floyd BLOOM (b.1897;d.1897)
- 2, Ms Gladys BLOOM (b.1898;d.1980)
  - sp: Mr. Rudolph C. DAHL (m.1924)
- 2, Ms Elvera BLOOM (b.1899;d.1979)
  - sp: Mr. Bruce FERGUSON (m.1929)
    - 3, Ms Joy Adrienne FERGUSN
      - sp: Mr. William STEVENS
        - 4, Mr. John Darrell STEVENS
          - sp: Ms Pamela June OSTERHOLT
            - 5. Ms Tina Marie STEVENS
            - 5. Mr. John Darrell STEVENS II
        - 4, Ms Terrie Diane STEVENS
          - sp: Mr. William Rae JONES
            - 5. Mr. William Rae JONES II
        - 4. Ms Susan Doreen STEVENS
- 2, Mr. Everett Raymond BLOOM (b.1901)
  - sp: Ms Claudine L. PEDERSON (m.1922)
- 2. Ms Bessie Gertrude BLOOM (b.1902;d.1931)
- 2, Ms Alice Marie BLOOM (b.1904-Center City,MN;d.1986-Minneapolis,MN)
  - sp: Mr. Earl Leonard Franklin PORTER (b.1901-Center City;m.1932;d.1988-Cambridge,Mn)
    - 3, Mr. Sheldon B PORTER (b.1934-Wabasga;d.2001-Sstanchfield,Minnestoa)
      - sp: Ms Sharon NELSON (b.1937;m.1955;d.1996)
        - 4, Ms Susan Lee PORTER
          - sp: Mr. Donald BETTCHER (m.(Div))
            - 5, Ms Nicolle Danielle BETTCHER
              - sp: Mr. Kelley ERICKSON (m.2005)
          - sp: Mr. Darryl ASHLEY
        - 4, Mr. Dale Nelson PORTER (b.1958;d.1992)
          - sp: Ms Diane Patricia BOGGS (b.1959;m.1980)
            - 5. Ms Trisha April PORTER (b.1981)
            - 5. Mr. Derek Mark PORTER (b.1986)
        - 4, Ms Karen Elizabeth PORTER (b.1960-Yokosuka,Japan)
          - sp: Mr. Gary Earl JACOBSON (b.1955-Mora,Minnesota;m.1982)
            - 5. Mr. Jesse Earl JACOBSON (b.1983-Cambridge,Minnesota)
            - 5. Ms Megan Marie JACOBSON (b.1988-St. Paul,Minnestoa)
    - 3, Ms Elizabeth Ann PORTER (b.1936-Red Wing,Minnesota;d.1983-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Ronald E. MARTELL (m.1961(Div))
        - 4, Ms Judy Marie MARTELL (b.1963-Minneapolis,MN)
          - sp: Mr. David A. DAY (m.1994)
    - 3. Mr. David Earl PORTER (b.1943;d.1985)
- 2, Mr. Alton Henry BLOOM (b.1906-Center City,MN;d.1969-Lindstrom,MN)
  - sp: Ms Alice Catherine SONERAL (b.1907-Lindstrom,MN;d.1998-Chisago City,MN)
    - 3, Mr. Charles David BLOOM (b.1930-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Ms Joan Delores CHRISTIAN (b.1932-Minneapolis,MN;m.1951)
        - 4, Mr. David Charles BLOOM (b.1953-Fairview Hospital,Minneapolis,MN)
          - sp: Ms Laura HUBBARD (b.1961-Minnesota;m.1984)
        - 4. Mr. Gary William BLOOM (b.1955-Fairview Hospital,Minneapolis,MN)

- sp: Ms Wong
- 4. Mr. John Henry BLOOM (b.1960-Fairview Hospital,Minneapolis,MN)

3, Mr. Larry Alton BLOOM Sr. (b.1937-Swedish Hosp,Minneapolis,MN)
- sp: Ms Marlene Jane SCHWAB (b.1937-Salvation Hospital,St. Paul,MN;m.1957)
  - 4, Mr. Larry Alton BLOOM Jr. (b.1957-Fairview Hospital,Minneapolis,MN)
    - sp: Ms Jane Diane OLSON (b.1957-Duluth,MN;m.1987)
      - 5. Ms Isabelle Kwan BLOOM (b.1993-Seoul,Korea)
      - 5. Mr. Isacc Lee BLOOM (b.1996-Seoul,Korea)
  - 4, Ms Lori Ann BLOOM (b.1959-Fairview Hospital,Minneapolis,MN)
    - sp: Mr. George DUMONT (b.1959-Minneapolis,MN;m.1982)
      - 5. Ms Kristin Nicolle DUMONT (b.1986-Little Rock,AK)
      - 5. Mr. Brien George DUMONT (b.1988-Little Rock,AK)
      - 5. Ms Natalie Ann DUMONT (b.1990-Newtown,PA)
  - 4, Mr. Monte James BLOOM (b.1960-Fairview Hospital,Minneapolis,MN)
    - sp: Ms Kellie Fae ANDERSON (b.1960-Morris,MN;m.1984)
      - 5. Ms Jessica Clair BLOOM (b.1987-Fairview Hospital,Minneapolis,MN)
      - 5. Mr. Cody James Erwin BLOOM (b.1989-Fairview Hospital,Minneapolis,MN)
      - 5. Mr. Stefan Alton Wesley BLOOM (b.1991-Fairview Hospital,Minneapolis,MN)

3, Mr. Steven William BLOOM
- sp: Ms Carol Ann MCMULLEN (b.1943-Balsam Lake,WI;m.1964)
  - 4, Ms Linda Jean BLOOM (b.1965-Robbinsdale,MN)
    - sp: Mr. Paul David PHILLIPS (b.1964-Robbinsdale,MN;m.1984(Div))
      - 5. Ms Samantha Ann PHILLIPS (b.1985-Fayettville,NC)
      - 5. Mr. Austin Paul PHILLIPS (b.1988)
  - 4, Ms Patty Jo BLOOM (b.1967-Robbinsdale,MN)
    - sp: Mr. Ronald Roy JOHNSON (b.1966-Robbinsdale,MN;m.1986)
      - 5. Mr. Luke Roy JOHNSON (b.1987-Robbinsdale,MN)
      - 5. Mr. Joshua Ryan JOHNSON (b.1988)
      - 5. Ms Nichole Elizabeth JOHNSON (b.1994-Robbinsdale,MN)
  - 4, Ms Amy Jo BLOOM (b.1967-Robbinsdale,MN)
    - sp: Mr. Stephen Ronald OLSON (b.1966-Coon Rapids MN;m.1988)
      - 5. Ms Amanda Marie Olson (b.1986-Robbinsdale,MN)
      - 5. Mr. James Willian OLSON (b.1989-Robbinsdale,MN)
      - 5. Mr. Cameron Stephen OLSON (b.1994-Robbinsdale,MN)
      - 5. Ms Gabrielle Grace OLSON (b.1995-Coon Rapids MN)
      - 5. Mr. Isaia Erik OLSON (b.1999-Coon Rapids MN)
      - 5. Mr. Graham Myles OLSON (b.2002-Coon Rapids MN)

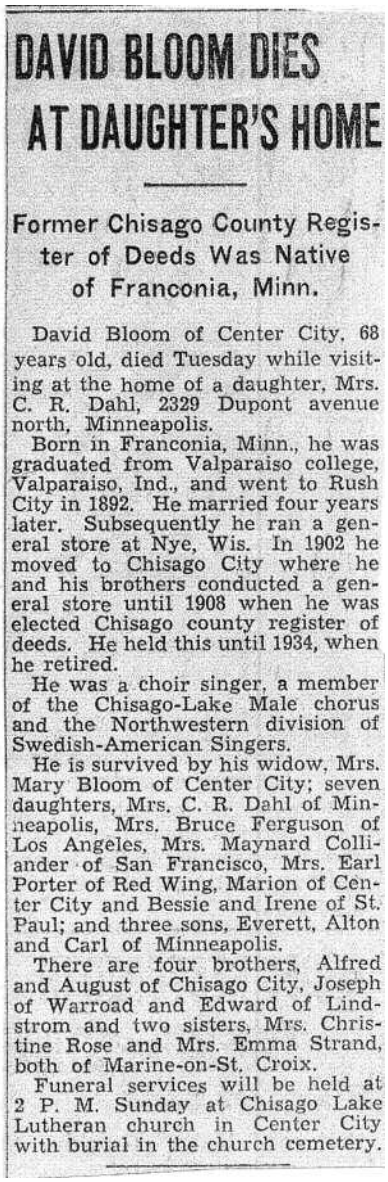
2, Ms Irene Elinor BLOOM (b.1908;d.2003-Chisago City,Mn)
- sp: Mr. Leonard Martin JOHNSON (m.1936)
  - 3, Mr. Jerome Leonard JOHNSON (b.1937)
    - sp: Ms Lolita Marie HOLDEN

2, Ms Eloise Elizabeth BLOOM (b.1910;d.1984)
- sp: Mr. Maynard C. COLLIANDER
  - 3, Mr. Kent Charles COLLIANDER
    - sp: Ms Carole LINDBERG (m.(Div))
      - 4. Ms Britta Carole COLLIANDER
    - sp: Ms Rosemarie TAGUE
- sp: Mr. Walter HABEKOSS (m.1928)

2. Mr. Carl Kenneth BLOOM (b.1913;d.1980)

2, Ms Marian Ivadell BLOOM (b.1915)
- sp: Mr. John William HOLT (m.1937)
  - 3. Mr. Mark David HOLT

3-9-1868 David Bloom 1-7-1936



DAVID BLOOM DIES AT DAUGHTER'S HOME

Former Chisago County Register of Deeds Was Native of Franconia, Minn.

David Bloom of Center City, 68 years old, died Tuesday while visiting at the home of a daughter, Mrs. C. R. Dahl, 2329 Dupont avenue north, Minneapolis.

Born in Franconia, Minn., he was graduated from Valparaiso college, Valparaiso, Ind., and went to Rush City in 1892. He married four years later. Subsequently he ran a general store at Nye, Wis. In 1902 he moved to Chisago City where he and his brothers conducted a general store until 1908 when he was elected Chisago county register of deeds. He held this until 1934, when he retired.

He was a choir singer, a member of the Chisago-Lake Male chorus and the Northwestern division of Swedish-American Singers.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mary Bloom of Center City; seven daughters, Mrs. C. R. Dahl of Minneapolis, Mrs. Bruce Ferguson of Los Angeles, Mrs. Maynard Colliander of San Francisco, Mrs. Earl Porter of Red Wing, Marion of Center City and Bessie and Irene of St. Paul; and three sons, Everett, Alton and Carl of Minneapolis.

There are four brothers, Alfred and August of Chisago City, Joseph of Warroad and Edward of Lindstrom and two sisters, Mrs. Christine Rose and Mrs. Emma Strand, both of Marine-on-St. Croix.

Funeral services will be held at 2 P. M. Sunday at Chisago Lake Lutheran church in Center City with burial in the church cemetery.

Information from Jerome Johnson, grandson of David.

David Bloom , Register of Deeds for Chisago County, has an almost unique record of continuous service in one county office, having been Register of Deeds for a quarter of a century.

Mr. Bloom represents one of the oldest pioneer families of Chisago County. This county was the first section of Minnesota to receive immigrants from Sweden. Among the first of these sturdy Scandinavians to arrive in 1853 was his father, Anders Gustaf Bloom. It was on the original Bloom homestead at Franconia that David Bloom was born in 1868. His early advantages were supplied by the district school. For three years he attended the Normal College and Business Institute at Valparaiso, Indiana.

Since early manhood he has been interested in the public life of the county. Following his college education, he clerked and was a bookkeeper in a store until he entered business himself as a general merchant at Chisago City, where he continued until his election to the office of Register of Deeds in 1905. He began his duties as Register of Deeds in 1909, and had been regularly re-elected. These repeated elections to public office constitute a splendid tribute to his fidelity and efficiency as well as his personal popularity. In the June primaries of 1934 he again received the nomination for office.

Since early manhood he has been a member of the Chisago Lake Lutheran Church at Center City. This is one of the oldest churches of this denomination in Minnesota, having been founded in 1854. Around it center a host of associations for hundreds of families not only in Chisago County, but for many who have carried the inspiration from that church center to many other sections of the Northwest.

It was on July 22, 1926, that David got involved in the real estate business of his two younger brothers, Joseph and Frank. It was then that Frank sold back his undivided half interest in Joe's Warroad farm for one dollar. Joe bought it because Joe had just paid Frank back for Frank's 1916 loan of $2,200. The legal document was notarized by David.

Joe's youngest son, Frank (b. 1920), was visiting David in 1934 on the night that David lost his last election for Registrar of Deeds. Now, the way Frank remembers it (he was only 14 years old at the time) was that David took that defeat pretty hard. Of course, since he had been Registrar since 1908, who wouldn't feel hurt. So many successful elections and then the inevitable defeat. David only lived another fourteen months. In 1990, the old County Office Building, which contained David's office, was moved to

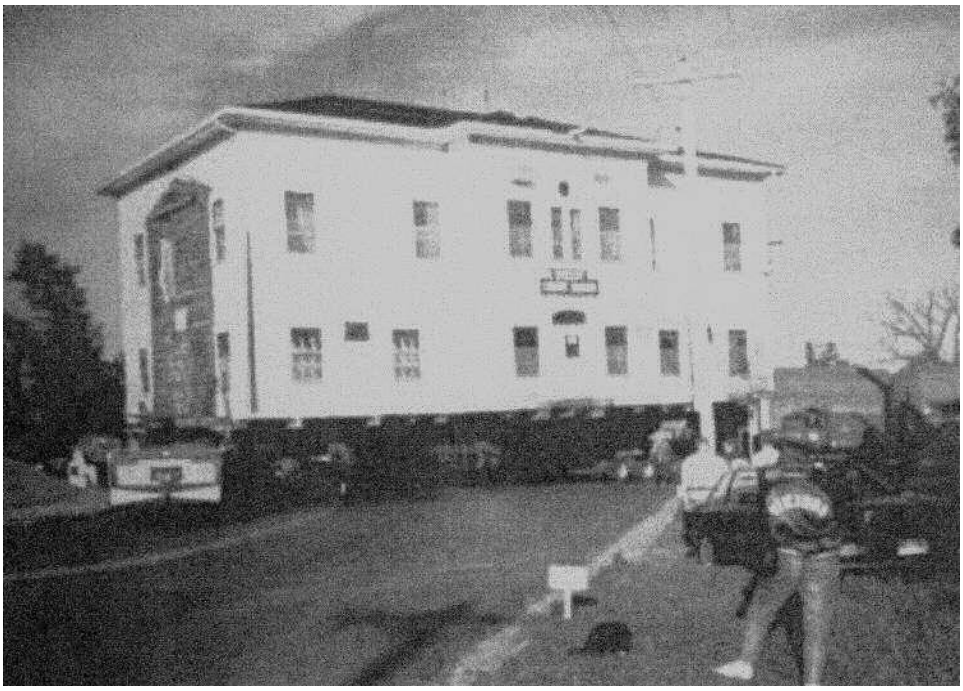
Almelund, Minnesota, which is eighteen highway miles north of Center City by way of Taylors Falls, Minnesota.

David married **Mary Elizabeth Olson** in Rush City, Minnesota, on August 14, 1896. She died on July 2, 1944 and was buried on July 5, 1944, in Center City, Minnesota. David and Mary had Eleven children: Floyd (died at about 3 months), Gladys, Elvera, Everett, Bessie, Alice, Alton, Irene, Eloise, Carl and Marion.

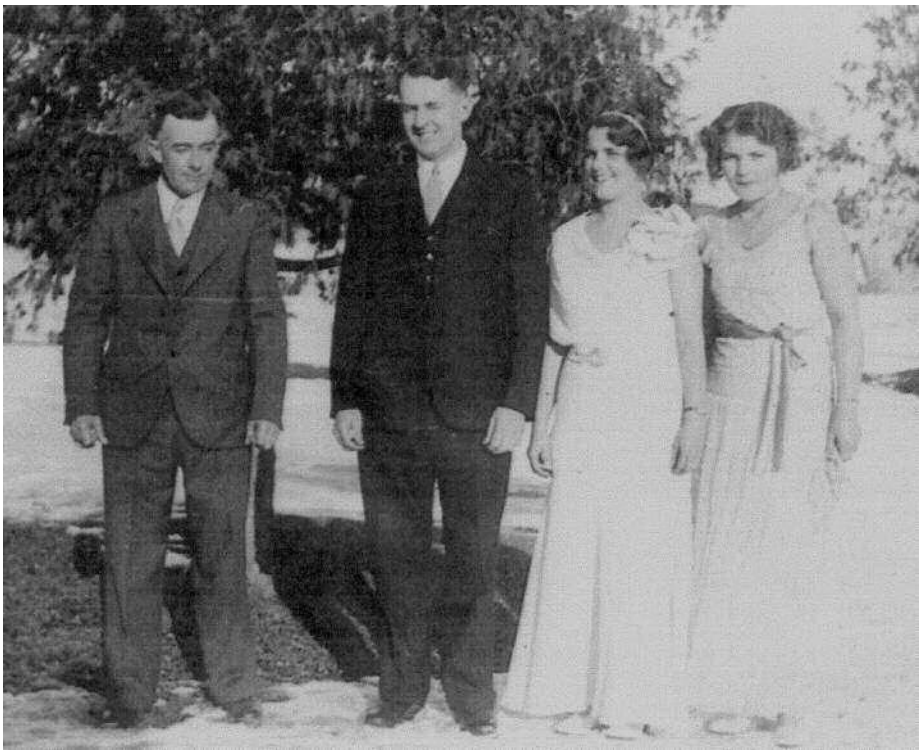
3-20-1908 Irene E. Bloom Johnson

Irene was born on March 20, 1908. She married Leonard Johnson on July 25, 1936. Irene worked for her father in the Registrar of Deeds office in Chisago County recording instruments and compiling Abstracts of Title. Most of her working career was working for the Northwestern Refining Company in St. Paul Park, Minnesota. After she retired, she worked at the Newport Public Library. She now resides at the Margaret S. Parmly Residence in Chisago City, Minnesota.

Jerome L. Johnson, son of Irene and Leonard Johnson was born on August 22, 1937. He served in the Army and worked for the Bailey Nurseries in Newport, Minnesota, for over thirty years before retiring in 1993. He married Lolita Holden on January 20, 1965. They live in Woodbury, Minnesota. **Lolita** was an elementary school teacher for the So. St. Paul School District for over thirty years. She retired in 1994.



This is 1990, and the Chisago County Courthouse is being moved to Almelund, Minnesota. At the time of its moving, it was the oldest frame Courthouse in use in Minnesota. Originally, Taylors Falls was the county seat. That was in 1851 when Chisago County was estab-lished. Before that time Chisago County was part of Washington County. Chisago City became the county seat in 1862. The courthouse was built in 1875. In 1876 the county seat was moved to Center City from Chisago City.



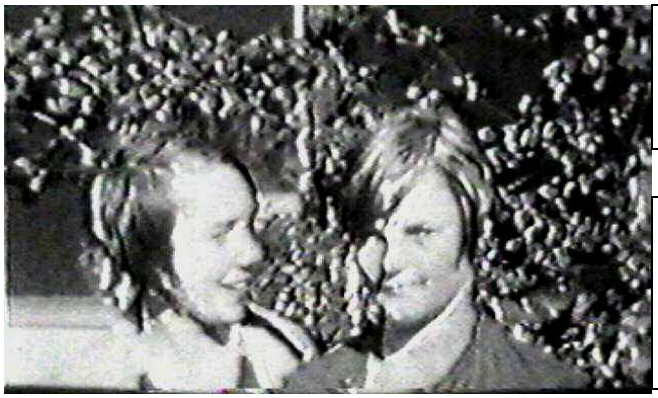
Alice Marie Bloom and Earl Porter's (see Earl's picture below) wedding photo. Alice Bloom was David's 6th child.. They were married 12/31/1932, and this photo was taken a few months later in the early spring of 1933. The maid of honor was Alice's sister, Marion, and the best man was Earl's brother, Ralph. Earl and Ruth (Porter) Bloom (Frank Bloom's wife) were brother/sister. Let's see, that means that David's son-in-law, Earl, was the brother of David's sister-in-law, Ruth

Irene Bloom Johnson's Obituary

Irene E. Johnson (nee Bloom, 95, of Chisago City, formerly of Newport, passed away peacefully on September 26, 2003. Born March 20, 1908 and raised in the Center City area, Irene graduated from Chisago Lake High School and Rasmussen Business College. During her career, she held various secretarial positions at the Register of Deeds, in Center City, Secretary of State at the State Capitol, Chisago County Highway Engineers, Northwestern Refining in St. Paul Parkway for 34 years, and Newport City Library from which she retired at age 85.

Irene was preceded in death by her husband Leonard and ten sisters and brothers. Survivors include her son Jerome (Hoot), his wife Lolita, a cousin, and many nieces and nephews.

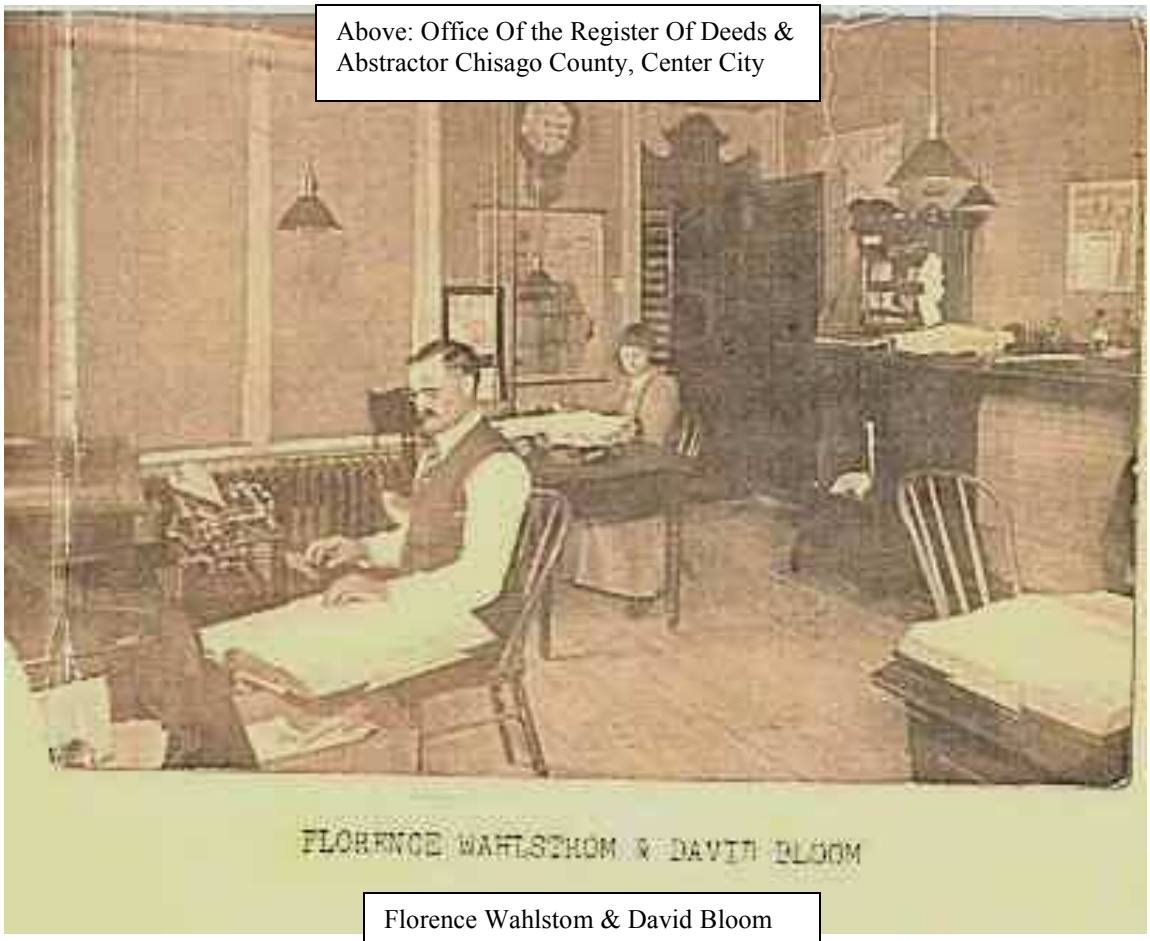
In her honor, service to be held at 1:30 pm Tuesday, September 30, at Newport Lutheran Church, 900 15th Street, Newport, Minnesota. Memorials preferred to charity of choice. There will be a service at a later date at the Margaret S. Parmly Residence for those who live in the Center City area and can't make it to the service on Tuesday.



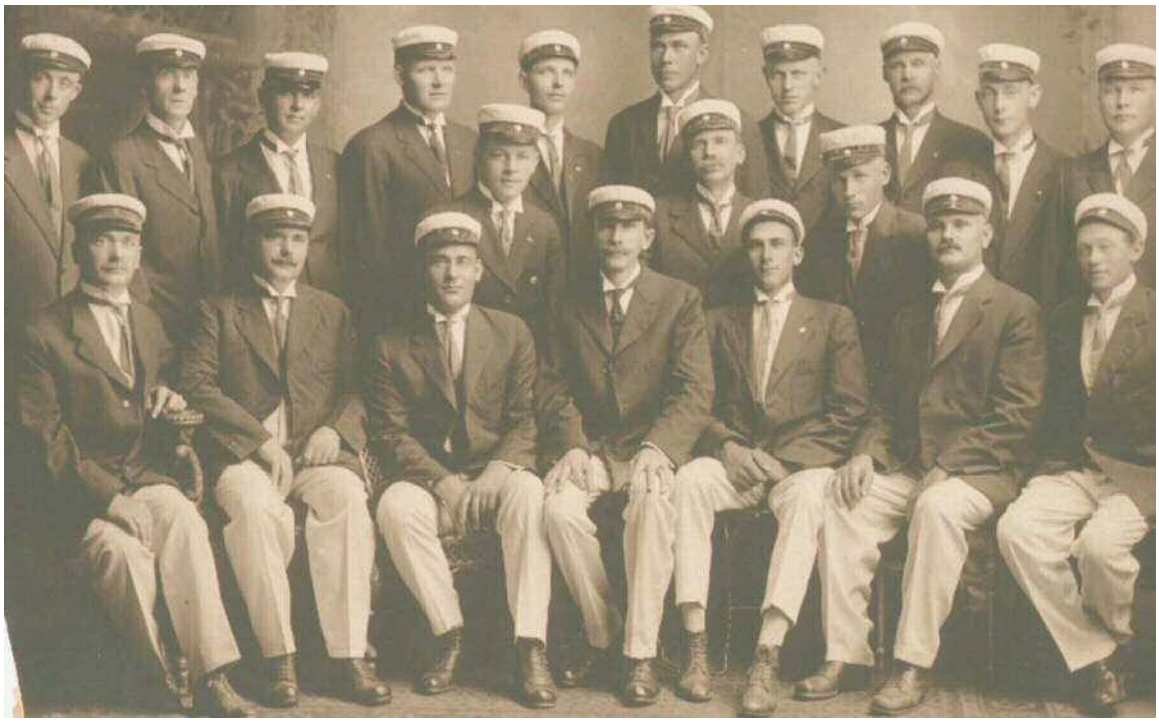
Top Row: Alice, Elvera, Everett, Alton, Gladys, Bessie
Front Row: Carl, David, Irene, Mary, Eloise, --in front is Marian

At left is Marian Rose, Christine's daughter and, at right, is Marian Bloom, (David's daughter - see picture above). Picture taken in Christine's yard, at the 1928 Bloom reunion.

Above: Office Of the Register Of Deeds & Abstractor Chisago County, Center City



Florence Wahlstom & David Bloom



Front Row: Dr. Frank Bloom, August Bloom, Paul Bloom, Prof. Anderson, Elmer Bloom, David Bloom, and possibly Elof Bergren.

Back Row: Unknown, Judge Stark?, Earl Porter [see picture below], Unknown, Unknown, Edwin Jonason, Unknown, Unknown, Everett Stromgren, Unknown, Unknown

2nd Row: Unknown, Unknown, Unknown.

Earl Porter. He copied the Twinkle, Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star song (see music next page) in 1941. I (Milan Bloom) don't know precisely what it means to have "copied the music."

Earl (1901 – 1988) was husband of Alice Bloom – David's daughter. See wedding picture on a previous page.

The song transcription by David Bloom (Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star) was something that David heard and put down on paper. It was not an original piece of work.

Click on this link and see the sheet music…Twinkle Twinkle, Little Star by David.pdf

By Clicking on this other link, you can play the song as performed by our cousin Laurel Cameron from New York City……..…. Twinkle Twinkle Little Star by David.mp3

Chisago County court house in its current location in Almelund, Minnesota which is north of Taylor Falls on highway 95. This is the building in which David Bloom did his work.

1. Ms Emma Sophia BLOOM (b.1869-Center City,Township 33,Section 7,Lot 7,8 MN;d.1954)

sp: Mr. Charles Gustaf STRAND (b.1864-Center City,MN;d.1925)

2. Mr. Harry William STRAND (b.1891;d.1923)

2, Ms Edna Catherine STRAND (b.1893;d.1962)

sp: Mr. Emil Ferdinand COTTOR (b.1893;m.1921;d.1964)

3, Dr. Anne Kathryn COTTOR (b.1923-St. Paul,MN)

sp: Dr. Robert Edward KUHN (b.1919;m.1948;d.1993)

4, Mr. Robert Jr. KUHN (b.1949)

sp: Ms Carol ARDEN (b.1937;m.1978)

5, Mr. Peter Arden KUHN (b.1979)

sp: Marnie MCKEE (b.1981;m.2003)

5. Mr. David Magnuson KUHN (b.1980)

4, Mr. Thomas Emil KUHN (b.1950)

sp: Ms Sherry Uhl CORMIER (m.1994)

5. Mr. Robert Michael KUHN (b.1994)

4, Mr. Timothy Charles KUHN (b.1953)

sp: Ms Kathleen Ann MERONY (b.1959;m.1989)

5. Mr. Alexander Joeph KUHN (b.1992)

5. Mr. Eric Robert KUHN (b.1994)

4. Ms Karen Anne KUHN (b.1956)

3, Ms Doris Eileen COTTOR (b.1928;d.1997)

sp: Mr. Richard H. JOHNSON (m.1951;d.1960)

4. Ms Edna Lynn JOHNSON (b.1952)

4, Ms Catherine Louise JOHNSON (b.1953)

sp: Mr. Ronald

5. Mr. Jonathan (b.1978)

5. Ms Anne (b.1981)

5. Ms Susannah (b.1983)

4, Mr. William Richard JOHNSON (b.1954)

sp: Ms Ronda

4, Mr. Blake JOHNSON (b.1958)

sp: Ms Lisa

5. Mr. Lake JOHNSON

5. Ms Jessica JOHNSON

5. Mr. Max JOHNSON

sp: Mr. Styrk R. OMLIE (m.1964;d.1980)

4, Ms Anne OMLIE

sp: Mr. Jeffrey GRAUPMANN

5. Ms Emily Rose GRAUPMANN (b.1996)

5. Mr. William GRAUPMANN

5. Mr. Thomas Henry GRAUPMANN (b.2001)

5. Ms Olivia Lauren GRAUPMANN (b.2001)

3, Dr. Robert Emil COTTOR (b.1932)

sp: Ms Carolyn SANDSTEDT

4. Ms Mary Lynn COTTOR (b.1963){A}

4, Ms Susanne COTTOR{A}

sp: Mr. James SIKORA

5. Catherine Anne SIKORA (b.1998)

5. Mr. Jimmy SIKORA (b.2000)

- sp: Ms Sharon
  - 4, Mr. Jonathon COTTOR{A}
    - sp: Ms Holly
      - 5. Mr. Ethan COTTOR
      - 5. Mr. Ryan COTTOR
  - 4. Ms Elizabeth COTTOR{A}
- 2, Ms Irene STRAND (b.1894)
  - sp: Mr. Gustave L. LINDGREN
  - 3, Ms Emmy Lou LINDGREN (b.1926)
    - sp: Mr. Harris WOFFORD
    - 4, Ms Susanne WOFFORD
      - sp: Mr. Jacques LEZRA (m.1985)
      - 5. Mr. Gabriel Wofford LEZRA (b.1988)
      - 5. Mr. Nathaniel Moises Lindgren LEZRA (b.1991)
    - 4. Mr. Daniel WOFFORD
    - 4. Mr. David WOFFORD
- 2, Mr. Roy E. STRAND (b.1896-Stillwater,MN;d.1987-Lakeview Memorial Hospital,Stillwater,MN)
  - sp: Ms Myrtle ANDERSON
  - 3, Ms Betty STRAND (b.1923;d.1968)
    - sp: Mr. Maynard HOLTE
    - 4, Mr. Paul HOLTE
      - sp: Ms Deborah NELSON
      - 5, Mr. Benjamin HOLTE
        - sp: UNKNOWN
        - 6. Ms Molly HOLTE
      - 5. Ms Molly HOLTE
    - 4. Mr. Brian HOLTE
    - 4. Ms Gloria HOLTE
  - 3. Ms Marilyn STRAND (b.1925)
  - 3. Mr. William STRAND (b.1931)
- 2. Ms Agnes Mabel STRAND (b.1899;d.1902)
- 2. Mr. Charles Byron STRAND
- 2, Dr. Elwyn STRAND (b.1902;d.1943)
  - sp: Ms Gertrude Marie JOHNSON (m.1930)
  - 3, Mr. James STRAND (b.1931)
    - sp: Ms Corrine CHRISTOPHERSON (b.1935)
    - 4. Mr. Eric STRAND (b.1960)
    - 4. Mr. Kent STRAND (b.1961)
  - 3, The Reverend Lynn STRAND (b.1935)
    - sp: Ms Janice CARLSON
    - 4. Mr. Peter STRAND (b.1960)
    - 4. Mr. Timothy STRAND (b.1963)
    - 4. Ms Catherine STRAND (b.1962){A}
    - 4. Ms Ann Marie STRAND (b.1965)
  - 3, Dr. Peter STRAND (b.1938)
    - sp: Ms Janice GARDNER
    - 4. Ms Elizabeth STRAND (b.1960)
    - 4. Ms Susan STRAND (b.1961)
    - 4. Ms Jennifer STRAND (b.1962)
    - 4. Ms Sarah STRAND (b.1968)
    - 4. Ms Amanda STRAND (b.1972)

- 3, Dr. Richard STRAND (b.1941)
  - sp: Ms Mary CARLSTROM
    - 4. Ms Lisa STRAND (b.1969)
    - 4. Ms Kirsten STRAND (b.1974)
- 2, Mr. Wallace R. STRAND (b.1904-Marine on St. Croix,MN;d.1962-Marine on St. Croix,MN)
  - sp: Ms La Vonne THOMPSON (b.1915-Argillite,GC,Kentucky;m.1933;d.1977-Stillwater. MN)
    - 3, Mr. John Wallace STRAND (b.1936-Stillwater,MN;d.1968-Minnesota)
      - sp: Ms Kim SWENSON (m.1957)
        - 4. Mr. John William STRAND (b.1958)
    - 3, Mr. Charles Loren STRAND (b.1939;d.1999)
      - sp: Ms Naomie RICHERT (b.1941;m.1962)
        - 4, Mr. Michael STRAND (b.1963)
          - sp: Linda QUIST (b.1963;m.1989)
        - 4, Mr. Joel STRAND (b.1967)
          - sp: Tracy MCVARY (b.1970)
      - sp: Ms Doris FREY (b.1948;m.1979)
        - 4, Ms Christina Merrill STRAND (b.1970)
          - sp: Bradley HANSON (b.1970)
            - 5. Dylan HANSON (b.1998)
            - 5. Dayton HANSON (b.2001)
    - 3, Mr. Thomas Michael STRAND (b.1945)
      - sp: Ms Bonnie SPRINGBORN (b.1946;m.1970)
        - 4. Ms Erica Kristine STRAND (b.1977-St. Paul,MN)
        - 4. Ms Bridget Nicole STRAND (b.1979-St. Paul,MN)
    - 3, Mr. Christopher Jay STRAND (b.1948)
      - sp: Ms Judy BEYESR (b.1948;m.1967)
        - 4. Mr. Gregory Jay STRAND (b.1967)
        - 4, Ms Michelle Marie STRAND (b.1969)
          - sp: Mr. Matthew HEFFERNAN (m.1996)
            - 5. Ms Emma Adriana HEFFERNAN (b.1998)
            - 5. Ms Cora Violet HEFFERNAN (b.2001)
        - 4, Ms Alysia Rene STRAND (b.1970)
          - sp: Mr. Mark NORBERG (m.2001)
        - 4. Ms Brenda STRAND (b.1973)
- 2, Ms Helen Mildred Elaine STRAND (b.1908;d.2002-Harbor House Nursing Home in Hingham,M)
  - sp: Dr. Kenneth WOLLAN Ph.D (b.1907;m.1933;d.1967)
    - 3, Dr. David S. WOLLAN Ph.D. (b.1937)
      - sp: Ms Christine NETSHEN (m.1963(Div))
        - 4. Ms Sarah WOLLAN
      - sp: Ms Barbara L
        - 4. Pierre-Yves Bertholet WOLLAN
    - 3. Ms Barbara B. WOLLAN (b.1940)
- 2, Ms Irma STRAND (b.1910)
  - sp: Mr. Wesley JOSEPHSON (m.1936)
    - 3, Mr. John JOSEPHSON
      - sp: Ms Nancy SECREET
        - 4. Mr. Keir John JOSEPHSON
    - 3, Mr. Kenneth JOSEPHSON
      - sp: Ms Sherrie BRICKEY
        - 4. Mr. Tracy JOSEPHSON
        - 4. Ms Jennifer JOSEPHSON

- 3, Dr. Stephen JOSEPHSON (b.1951;d.2001)
  - sp: Ms Jean Marie JUNGMAN
    - 4, Mr. Chris JOSEPHSON
      - sp: Ms Kelly MCCARTNEG (m.2011)
- 3. Ms Karen JOSEPHSON (b.1951)

Charlie and Emma (Bloom) Strand

Edna Strand Cotter Wedding September 1921

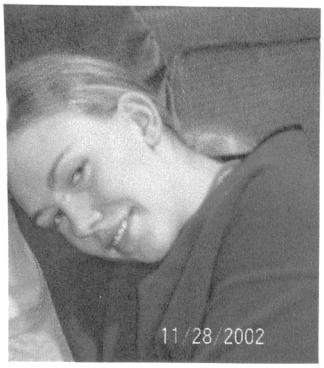
Edna married Emil Cottor on September 25, 1921, in the Lutheran Church in Marine on St. Croix. Before and during the ceremony, Elmer Bloom of Center City sang "O Promise Me" and "I Love You Truly". Miss Irene Strand, sister of the bride, was bridesmaid. Elwyn Strand, brother of the bride, was best man. Little Marian Erickson of Stillwater, a cousin of the bride, was the flower girl. After a wedding trip, they were at home at 408 Ashland Avenue. St. Paul, Minnesota. Edna and Emil had three children: Anne, Doris and Robert.

Back row: Edna and Helen
Front: Irma

Irma Strand

Irma Strand married **Wesley Josephson**. They had four children: Karen, Stephen, Kenneth and John.

Stephen Leif Josephson (b. 5-31-1951, d. 7-24-2001) was graduated from Baldwin Wallace College, Berea, Ohio with a B.A. in biology. He received his M.A. in microbiology from the Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia. He received his Ph D in microbiology from the State University of New York, Buffalo, New York. He was Director of Clinical Microbiology at Rhode Island Hospital, vice-president of research at Milkhaus Corporation. He completed two years of post-doctorate studies in clinical microbiology at Mount Sinai Hospital, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He married **Jean-Marie Jungman** who works for the school district in Fall River, Massachusetts. They had two children: Chris and **Kelly**. **Chris** was graduated with a B.A. in Business from Elmira College in 2003. He is in museum management.



Jean-Marie
Chris
Kelly

Kenneth Josephson married **Sheree Brickey**. They have two children. **Tracy** and **Jennifer**.

John Wesley Josephson married **Nancy Secreet**. They have one child, **Keir John**.

3-9-1897 Roy Strand 12-14-1997

A taped interview with Roy Strand 1985
by Emmy Lou, Kathy and Betty
transcribed by Gail Anderson Sonbuchner

”It was important to have that good sausage, and it was good. We would always go down the basement and make it. I don't know why-it wasn't a very good basement! The Swedes had thirteen days of Christmas. Christmas Eve would be the opening of Christmas, and the gifts were given Christmas Eve evening. I remember when Harry got a cheap watch for his present. It was the most important gift he'd ever gotten in his life. He was probably twelve or thirteen years old.

My mother (Emma) would always put fresh paper on the pantry shelves for Christmas. She even washed the walls in back of the shelves. Everything had to be perfect. We usually went to church at 11:00 PM Christmas Eve. The Swedes used to have a 5:00 AM service on Christmas Day. After they had been here for a few years, it became an 11:00 service. The big church day was the third day of Christmas. That's when the Sunday School had a big celebration.

The headcheese was made by the woman of the house using a very particular recipe. It was called headcheese because the head wasn’t good for anything else! They used most of the head because they could carve that. Ours was made with two pigs.

My brother (Harry) was six years older than I was, and he went to the cities to high school. There was no high school in the country in those days. He went to the Minnesota College for three years and got a four-year course. Then he went to the university in the school of mines and became

a mining engineer. He was a good student. It took a lot of money. We were a big family, and it took a lot of money to live. I stayed home and worked, so the rest of them got to go to college. Harry was sent up to northern Minnesota. They had a big rock that contained the best iron mineral there was on the range. He became a mining engineer, and no one wanted to tackle it. He was making progress, and he got sick. Some people said that he burned the candle at both ends. He was a great artist and musician. My mother got my father to let him take organ music. He played first bass in a quartet, and he sold a few drawings for magazine covers. He also did work for the University of Minnesota on their yearbook. Harry had a club. He would get hold of Dr. Holcomb, and they put an animal asleep and dissected it.

Charles Byron and Elwyn Strand. I believe that Byron is the older and I believe he died early in life.

Harry was the eldest. Then there were Edna, Irene and me. There were two that died. The younger ones were Helen, Irma and the boys Elwyn and Wallace. Edna was a rather conservative person and a lot of help for my mother. Irene got to be, but she never did as much as Edna. Edna and Irene were always entertaining each other. They got along very well together. Edna wasn't very well; she was poorly for twenty years before she died. Irene was a good pianist and loved those Swedish songs.

When we lived down below the hill, my father (Charles Strand) rented a house for two dollars and fifty cents a month. We were there quite a few years. Then his sister got diphtheria, and we had to get out of the house. We had a maid by the name of Nellie Anderson (Guslander). They moved me across the yard to the Wiegren house. What impressed me is that from that time on Nellie was a second mother. When my sister Agnes (named after Charles' sister) died, the old man Wiegren came back and said in Swedish that Agnes has gone to heaven. Nellie stayed to help my mother over the worst of those years when the kids were young. Then she moved up to this house.

There was no well there. There had been no well drilled in Marine. They decided to drill a well, and they got down about ten feet and hit a big rock. Then they hired a little man to dig a well. He would dig down, and they were able to pull up the rocks for quite a ways. My father, Charles, came home one noon, and he couldn't see the little man down there. He had gone around the big rock. He said "Get him out of there this minute! Get him out!" It could have caved in. They used boards and hay to dig the well. They would put in boards all around and then the hay, so there would be no gravel running down. They got down around 30 feet, and the rocks weren't so big then. They were able to drill down; they had to blast once or twice to get the big rocks. They went down 125 feet. Then they got into limestone. Limestone is very hard or very soft, and this happened to be the soft limestone. That drill somehow or other drilled at an angle. All of a sudden it went, and we had 45 feet of steel cable in the well. Plenty of water and plenty of rust! The next year the well digger had made a complicated machine, so he was able to hook that cable. They got it up. It was lucky that they knew where it broke. It was broken in the eye of the drill that got rid of the rust. That drill is still in there. One day my father brought the minister from Scandia home for lunch. The fellow that was digging took off his clothes and came in with his red underwear on for lunch! They just made a place for him.

Before the well, the water would come down the pipeline from the spring west of here about two miles. That took care of different people on the way. That's when the rich people had the sawmill here. They had to run the water back into the original stream about a mile without wasting any water. That was run through a wooden pipe. They had an iron band around it with a bolt. It finally broke, and they never fixed it after that. It was 1921 when electricity came into town.

I was with the Rose children when they got older. Jennie Rose got married quite young, and I didn't see much of her. Laura Rose told me that her father (Christine's husband, John Gabrielson Rose) went away for a cure for his alcoholism, but his friends would put alcohol in his soft

drinks. It wasn't long before he was drinking again. I don't think his alcoholism showed much in his business. He was a sporadic drinker and didn't drink until after Agnes died at one year old. He mourned so terribly. He used to come at Christmas with the toys that hadn't been sold, and they used to be some of the best things.

Emma was supposed to be the best housekeeper in Marine. She was usually in the choir at church. Irene, Emmy Lou and I were with her when she died in Bethesda Nursing Home; it was her heart. She didn't want to die in a hospital. She died in 1954.

My mother's parents would visit us, and we'd visit them some. Grandpa Collin came over from Sweden because a lot of people had come here, and they didn't have enough ministers along. He'd come and support his God among the Swedish people here.

Left to Right: Marian Rose Anderson, Doris Strand Cotter Omlie, Helen Strand Wollan, Emmy Lou Lindgren, Irma Strand Josephson

Emma and Christine. Emma was 11 years younger than Christine.

Gustaf Collin was a healer. His doctoring was through the use of natural drugs that he got from nature. He was an excellent bonesetter. Dr. Holcomb, who was my doctor for many years, said there wasn't a better bonesetter than Mr. Collin. He had set his leg in two places. A lot of the old people had medicines they knew about. A lot of them were commercial medicines they wouldn't use unless they knew they were all right.

"Everyone is 'Family' at Marine on St. Croix", Minneapolis Sunday Tribune, 1-3-1960:

Storekeeper **Roy Strand** told about the fancy re-naming of Marine Mills. Seems that calling the village Marine Mills when there weren't any mills anymore struck some people as odd. Alexander M. Peabody, a St. Paulite who retired to Marine Mills in about 1916, came up with the new name. Alexander had lived in Germany for some years. The beauties of the Rhine River, he believed, were much like those along the St. Croix at Marine Mills. Then why not call it Marine on the St. Croix. That started quite a donnybrook in the village. Some were for changing the name, others were aghast at such tinkering with tradition. The post office department was asked to make the new name official, only the word "the" was omitted. You'll still see hyphens between the words, but the official name is Marine on St. Croix. To call it just "Marine" is as much heresy as calling San Francisco "Frisco". Shorten the name at the risk of your neck!

Roy Strand's store holds both old and new. Roy's father worked for the lumber company's store in the same building the Strand store now occupies. "We have to stock some things many a store wouldn't bother with," said Roy, who also has been president of the bank for over thirty years.

"I can remember the days when we regularly sold lots of kerosene and lumberjack boots and shoes. Practically all our dry goods sold by the yard-thousands of yards of dress goods a year plus all the trimmings. I started working for my father here in 1912. We still stock thread and buttons and some yard goods. We have hardware and a meat department and groceries. We have spare parts for lanterns the folks still use in summer cottages. We carry stock salt for cattle and oyster shells for chickens. We have toys and gift items. We're charter members of the Fairway Food organization. We still have some harness items left over from a complete line we carried years ago. We had some high button shoes until recently, but collectors picked them up. I can remember selling brass-tipped shoes for children. We have replacement ax handles and automatic electrical appliances."

With Roy as a guide, I toured the old store. Here was the original safe of the lumber company, its double doors all done up with roses and sylvan scenes. An 80-year-old balancing scale is still used to weigh nails. Upstairs are cartons of old-time clothing.

"Keep these for people to borrow for plays or parties or whatnot," said Roy. "Except nobody gets into the store on Thursdays. During World War II, we couldn't get enough help. We couldn't get meat. We had to dress 100 chickens for the weekend. Even when we didn't have to do that anymore, we kept closing on Thursdays. We're not of a mind to change that, either."

Village pride was echoed by another Marine on St. Croix native, **Laura Rose**, who lives alone in a neat, frame house. "I remember our family place had flower beds and even a fountain," said Miss Rose. "We had Romeo and Juliet porches. I left here for about 30 years. Taught school in the deep south. Quite a challenge, since my field was United States history. I just told the pupils that they had their prejudices and I had mine, and we'd let it stay that way. Fortunately, they saw me as a mid-westerner and not a Yankee. We got along."

But the pull of family and the village was strong. Miss Rose returned, moved into the house that had been in the family for sixty years.

"I have my roots here," Miss Rose said quietly. "So many of us here feel related to each other. On the Fourth of July, we had homecoming celebrations that brought so many people back. Had one just last year. Then the Bloom family has a regular reunion. I have forty first cousins. We're pretty closely knit."

The Messenger:

Roy's family had settled in the village in 1895, and Roy was born two years later on March 9, 1897. For many years the Strand home was the historic Parker house. Roy worked at the Security State Bank in Marine from 1962-1976. He had returned to Marine from Parker's Prairie in 1924 to help his father, Charles L. Strand, run the local general store. He then took over its management when Charles died in 1927. As an adult, Roy was one of Marine's most prominent citizens, playing an important role in village life. He had an abiding interest in the history of his hometown, much of which he helped to make.

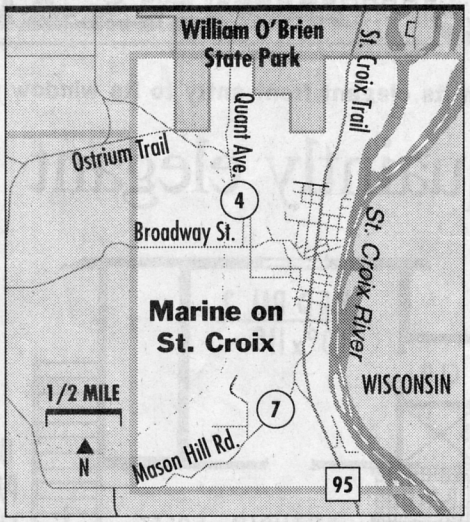
Roy married **Myrtle Anderson**. They had three children: **William, Betty** and **Marilyn**.

Betty married **Maynard Holte** and had three children: **Paul, Brian** and **Gloria**. Paul married **Deborah Nelson** and had one son, **Benjamin**.

40 YEARS AGO—This photo was taken at a picnic of the "Jolly Club" of Big Marine Lake in 1909.

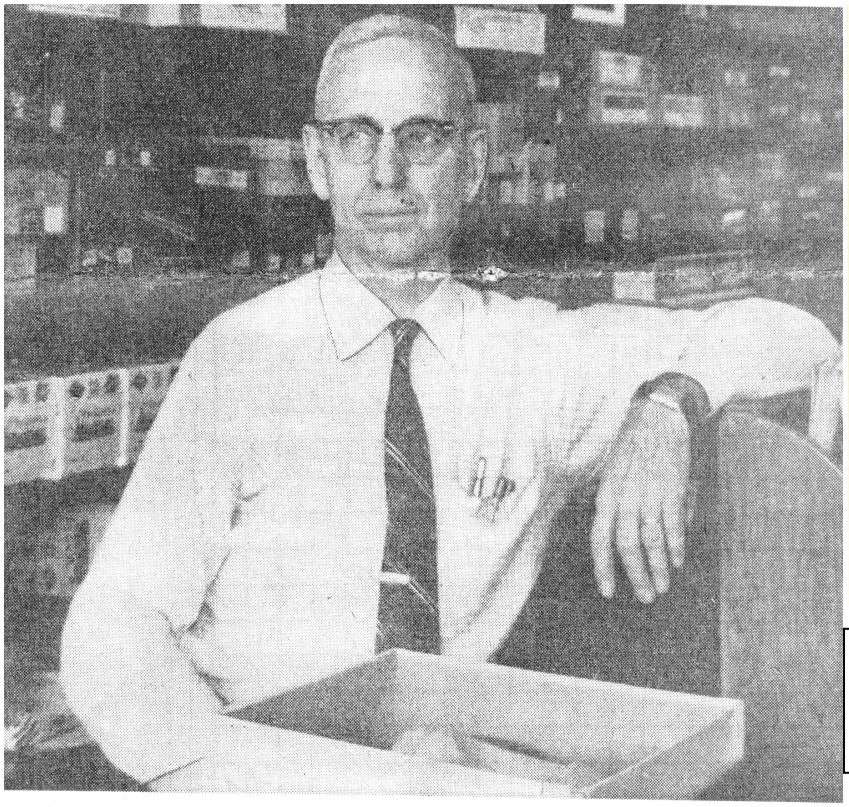
At a glance: Marine on St. Croix

Area: About 4 square miles
Population: 602
Racial makeup: 98.3 percent white; 0.3 percent black; 0.5 percent American Indian, Eskimo, Aleutian Islander; 0.8 percent Asian or Pacific Islander; 0.3 percent Hispanic origin
Median age: 37.2
Median family income: $50,158
Single family housing: 264 units
Median home value: $111,400
Taxes on that home: About $2,000
Rental units: 30
Rental median: $675
Schools: Marine Elementary. In District 834, whose per-pupil spending ranks 10th among 17 East Metro districts; average ACT score 20.6
Best of Marine: Spectacular river set-



DAVE HARDMAN/PIONEER PRESS 1995

R. E. STRAND
C. A. BLOOM
A Fairway Store
R. E. STRAND & CO.
GENERAL STORE
Marine on St. Croix, Minn.
A Fairway Store



"We'll sell you an ax handle, a steak, oyster shells, a button hole maker"—Roy Strand

Above: Roy's graduation picture from - what today- is named the University of Minnesota

Above: Marine on St. Croix old days, Right: Strand store today.

Elwyn and Marie

Helen, Edna, Elwyn, Harry, Roy, Wallace, Irene, Irma, Charles and Emma
Taken on Edna's wedding day, September 25, 1921 In Marine-on-St. Croix

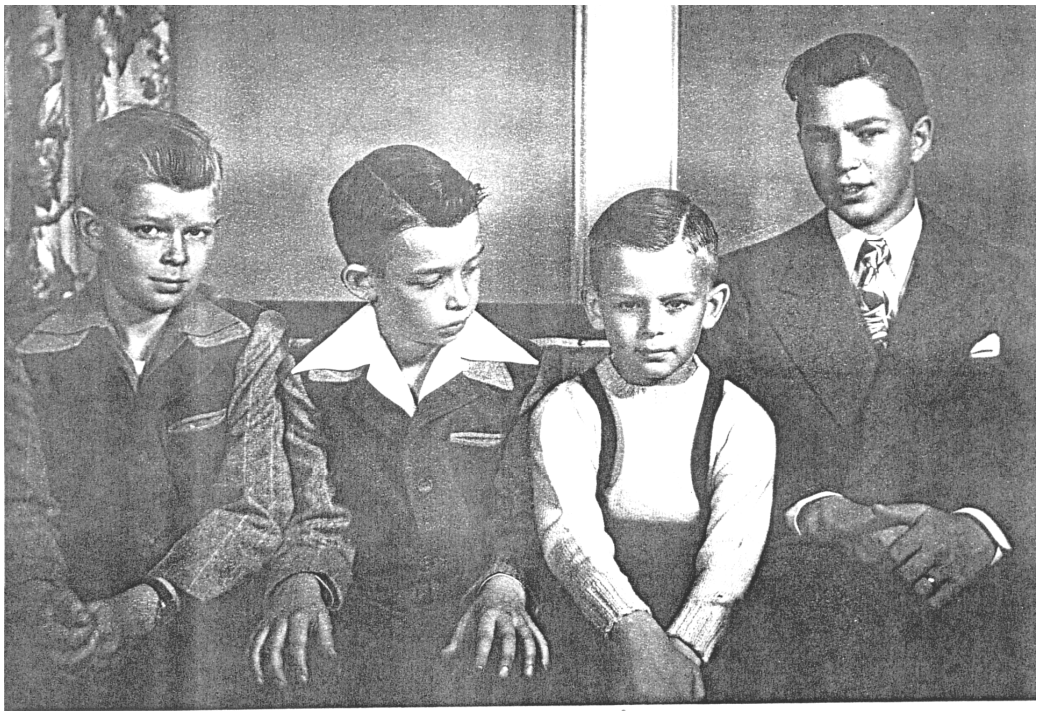
1902 Elwyn V. Strand 1943

DR. STRAND

Elwyn was born in Marine on St. Croix and attended school there. He graduated from Stillwater High School and the University of Minnesota School of Medicine with the class of 1928. He served his internship in Ancker Hospital in 1928-1929 and practiced medicine in Bayport and Stillwater since 1929. He was a member of the Phi Beta Phi medical fraternity and the honorary medical fraternity of Incus and Alpha Omega Alpha. He did post-graduate work at Polyclinic in New York City. He was coroner of Washington County for several years, active in the Boy Scouts of America, president of the Bayport Realty Co., a member of the Bayport Improvement Club, the Bayport school board and the Washington County Medical Association. He was on the staff of Lakeview Memorial Hospital in Stillwater and was the health officer of the Village of Lake Elmo and Bayport. He was a member of the Lions Club of Stillwater, the Cotillian Club of Stillwater, the Vasa Order of America and the First English Lutheran Church of Bayport.

On July 5, 1930, he was married to **Gertrude Marie (Mae) Johnson** in South St. Paul. Mae was a home economics and science teacher in the high school. He enjoyed playing poker with prominent Bayport men such as Jim Rowland, Ernie Madson, Bill Hulings and "Doc" Sherman. A skeleton "Mr. Bones" was used by Elwyn and Dr. Sherman in their Bayport office. It had been purchased in Paris in the early 1920's by Dr. Benepe of Stillwater who had given it to Dr. Sherman for his Bayport office. In 1973 Sherman was ready to retire and gave "Mr. Bones" to Richard Strand. According to Sherman, he had thought of putting the remains in the dump but was afraid he might be accused of murder! The skeleton was that of a male who once lived in Morocco in the mid-1800's. Elwyn and Marie had four boys:

Lynn *Peter* *Richard* *James.*



"Hunting Trips"
*by **Peter Johnson Strand***

We know very little about my father's recreational activities. We do know that he loved to hunt, fish, play golf and occasionally drink a little scotch. He probably enjoyed hunting most of all.

While duck hunting in northern Minnesota, he dropped his Browning shotgun in the lake. He returned home and promptly purchased a new gun which we still have. Towards the end of his life when he was very ill, he went pheasant hunting in western Minnesota. He wrote a letter home to my mother which she later destroyed, but I was privileged to read. Essentially it said he was feeling very tired but having a wonderful time and loved his hunting. Some years after his death his good friend, Dr. Burlingame, a radiologist from St. Paul, decided we should learn to hunt. He took **Jim** and myself to a farm near Lake Elmo and instructed us in shooting. We shot clay pigeons on several occasions, and I became hooked on hunting. I believe I am the only one of his sons who has continued to hunt.

The tradition has been passed on to my son-in-law and even one daughter. Jennifer hunted ducks with me when she was younger. Now Andrew has started to hunt, and I hope the tradition which my father started will continue with subsequent generations.

"*A Visit Too Long Delayed"* by **Lynn Strand**

It was 1963 in September that **Janice**, I and three year old Peter visited Hingham, Massachusetts, and the home of **Uncle Ken** and **Aunt Helen**. It was a marvelous place right on the bay south of Boston, and our visit was wonderful. We were family, and they treated us as family although I suspect that they treated all who crossed their threshold with warmth and love. We visited Boston, the Public Gardens and duck pond. When we returned to Minnesota, a book entitled "Make Way for Ducklings" arrived for Peter, a gift from Aunt Helen.

We were always going to go back and until this year we never made it. Uncle Ken died a long time ago, but Janice wrote to Helen every Christmas, and a letter came from her wondering when we would return.

Aunt Helen is, of course, the next to the youngest sibling of my father. She is a sharp, delightful and warm woman of 92. Janice and I had two wonderful visits with her. She related some of the stories of her growing-up years in Marine. My father and her others brothers, Harry, Roy and Wallace were older than she, and her remembrances of my father were those of a young girl who sees him coming and going from school, work and the social endeavors of an energetic young man. She said to us very simply that he was a wonderful man. He was a very serious man. It sounds like his sons' sense of humor came from their mother, but a wonderful, caring man. Not much else could she report, just "a wonderful man".

I didn't know that Aunt Helen and my mother were as close as they were. As Helen put it, "Around 5 o'clock Marie and I would each make a cocktail, call one another and have a good talk". Two widows, each *vital and active who found something special in each other.*

I'm glad Janice and I went to Hingham. **Cousin Barbara** fixed us a two lobster each dinner, and **Cousin Steven Josephson and Jean Marie** came from Providence for the evening. It was a grand time. Aunt Helen is now in the nursing home as she has trouble walking and breathing. But nothing else is missing. She was glad to hear there are Democrats in Minnesota and upon leaving for dinner with Barbara after our first visit, Aunt Helen said to Barbara, "The dinner is on me". That is Aunt Helen-a wonderful woman from a wonderful family. We are indeed blessed.

*"A Visit to Grandma Strand's House: The Asa Parker House by **Richard Collin Strand***

Thanks to the very thoughtful gift of my wonderful wife, **Mary**, I had the opportunity to spend an evening in Grandma Strand's home in Marine on St. Croix. We waited a long time to get reservations, but finally in November we packed our small overnight bags and headed for the St. Croix Valley. We drove north on Highway 95 through Bayport, through Stillwater, past the "boom site" on to Marine.

We arrived late in the afternoon and were met at the front door by Connie Weiss, the present owner. The house was all lighted and ready for guests. She toured the house with us and showed us to our room which was the master bedroom on the first floor. The house is in excellent shape considering it is 143 years old. It looks much the same as I remember as a child except that the attic where we played is now a two-bedroom suite.

We walked the grounds, inspected the outbuildings and wandered through the park where the vegetable gardens were in the past. After dressing for dinner, we headed for Brookside Bar & Grill and had a wonderful dinner. We met old friends there and talked and laughed into the evening.

We returned to the house to sleep in grandma's bedroom with the large antique bed and the fireplace burning. As I dozed off, I could see Grandma Strand sitting on the living room settee with her thin vein-lined hand on the arm with its ever-present fine tremor. I could almost hear her soft voice and see her faint smile. I wished I could have met Grandpa Strand and even known his son, Elwyn, my father. It was a wonderful trip back in time that I will never forget.

***Helen Strand Wollan**'s memories of her brother, Elwyn:*

"Elwyn was a serious, warm, dedicated man all of his life-leading to his final success in his chosen profession. He chose not to seek success in higher fields but to use his skills among his own where he earned his reward from the love, affection and admiration of the Bayport community. The only funny story I remember about Elwyn was when he was courting "Mae" (Marie's nickname) using the family Buick. When he returned that night, going up the back stairs, **Wally** had strung tin cans on a string across the stairway-rousing everyone to Elwyn's embarrassment!"

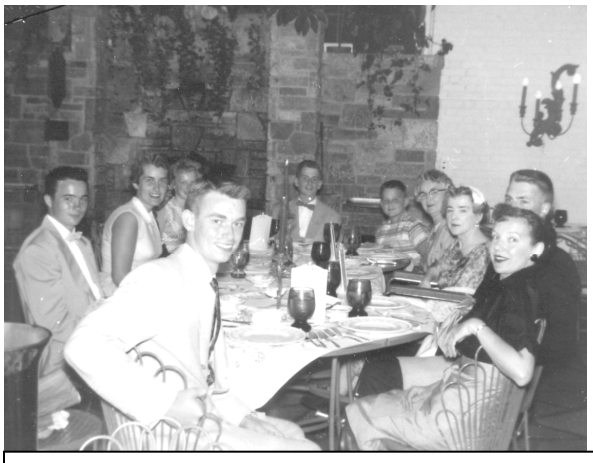
Eric, Kent, Jim, Peter, Mae, Janice, Corrine, Wally at Marian and Sharkey's home in Forest Lake

*From the diary of **Lisa Carlstrom**, Mary Strand's mother:*

In early 1943 as I brought the girls to Dr. Strand for their monthly checkups, he said I should rest daily if I possibly could. His office waiting room was packed, so I asked him when he was going to rest. His reply was: "Vi fa vila nar vi do." (We will rest when we die.) He probably knew then that his days were numbered. Shortly before his death in November of 1943, Ernie (my husband) was asked to give Dr. Strand a haircut at home. This was one of the most difficult things Ernie ever did. He was just sick to think that such a wonderful young man who had helped so many, was dying of cancer.

The whole town really mourned Dr. Strand's death.

After Ernie died, less than five months later, I remember Marie saying that she didn't know which was the harder-watching a loved one die or having a seemingly well man go so suddenly.



Anna "Pete" Leffler entertaining at the Lowell Inn in Stillwater, Minnesota. From the bottom of the picture: Peter Strand, Charles "Chipper" Strand, Barb Wollan, Carol Anderson, Dick Strand, Tom Strand, Estelle Rose Erickson, Pete, Jim Strand and Marian Erickson Anderson

*Memories of **Et Olsen***, Bayport Minnesota:

It was late summer of 1929. I was working as a clerk in our local drug store. A handsome young man walked in and with a shy smile and his hand out to shake mine, he introduced himself. "I am Dr. Elwyn Strand and will be occupying the office next door to hopefully take care of sick people for miles around." He turned to shake the hands of children and adults who were in the store and with another smile, left. For many years he was "our doctor" - a wonderful man, kind and very caring. He was very well liked by all until God took him from us.

1-30-1908 Helen Strand Wollan 1-23-2002

Helen was a starring soprano with the Marine Glee Club in 1927. She was graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1931. Helen and **Ken Wollan** were married in 1933. She took graduate courses at Syracuse University and Bridgewater State College. She worked for a time as a nutritionist at Massachusetts General Hospital. In 1951, she moved to Hingham when her husband became Director of the Boston Children's Service Association. Shortly after this move, she became a guidance counselor at Hingham High School, retiring in 1973. During her two decades in the Hingham Public Schools, she was dedicated to students and young people. As a long time member of the Hingham Congregational Church, Helen served on many committees and was an active member of the Wednesday morning Bible group. Until slowed down by health problems, she was active in the Hingham Yacht Club, the Cohasset Golf Club and occasional Elderhostels. She was an avid bridge player until the last few months of her life.

Emmy Lou Lindgren Wofford, Irma Strand Josephson, William and Bill Strand, Helen Strand Wollan, Clinton Paul (husband of LaVonne Thompson)

Front row: Bill Omlie, Danny Wofford, Blake Omlie.

Ken Wollan (b. Duluth, Minnesota, d. 7-12-1967) was a national leader in social work for children. He was director of the Boston Children's Service Association for eleven years. He was a strong supporter of public welfare legislation and public agencies and founded the Intercountry Adoption Program. He was graduated from the University of Minnesota and was general secretary of the Agriculture College Y.M.C.A. for two years. He then came to the Boston University School of Theology where he received the Bachelor of Sacred Theology Degree in 1933 and was a Lutheran minister. He was co-director of the Massachusetts General Hospital Psychiatric Camp from 1934-1936. He then became executive director of the Citizenship Training Department of Boston Juvenile Court, establishing the first program of its kind in this area. He received the Doctorate in Social Science from Boston University in 1938. In 1941 he became director of the Connecticut Junior Republic at Litchfield, Connecticut. In 1965 he founded Camp Baird in Plymouth for disturbed children, 1955-1962 Educational Coordinator of the U.S. Public Health Delinquency Project, Judge Baker Guidance Center. He was commissioner of the Mayor's Committee of Youth Activities Commission and Youth Educational Assistance, Inc. and numerous other committees. From 1938-1941 and from 1951-1956 he was an instructor in the Boston University School of Social Work. He was a founder and Fellow of the Massachusetts Psychological Association, a member of the Am. Psychological Association and a Fellow of the American Orthopsychiatric Association and the American Group Psychotherapy Association. He was a moderator of the Hingham Congregational Church for 1965-1966 and director of its Church Educational Program. He was a former director of Endicott Junior College and a member of the Hingham Yacht Club.

Helen and Ken were married on a Saturday evening at sunset. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Arthur Johnson of River Falls in the presence of immediate relatives and a few friends.

The bride's junior attendants were her five nieces: Betty and Marilyn Strand of Marine, Ann and Doris Cottor and Emmy Lou Lindgren of St. Paul. Arthur B. Shroeder of Grand Forks, North Dakota, was the groom's best man. Helen wore a white organdy floor length gown with a cap of real lace and tulle veil that was held in place with a wreath of orange blossoms. She carried an arm bouquet of bride's roses.

"As I Remember" by Helen S. Wollan, 1998
(For Full text see separate document listed in Table of Contents)

I, Helen Mildred Strand, was born January 30, 1908. My brother, Harry, came home from college for the christening and was disappointed that they had not used his suggestion for my name, so they added Elaine. I was born and lived in the same house in Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota, until I left for college.

Asa Parker, one of the lumber barons of the affluent lumber days, built the big house we lived in. Around 1900 the village began to deteriorate until it became a summer vacation area with people from as far away as Chicago building homes on the river, and later it became a commuting village for the Twin Cities (St. Paul and Minneapolis). My father ran a general store and grain business, servicing the regional farming area and survived this period of deterioration.

Our house was surrounded by a large yard and a small orchard of apples, plums and grapes all hemmed in by a white picket fence. There was a barn, a carriage house, ice house, a "well" house to contain the machines driving the artesian well and a garage was added for our first car, a seven passenger Buick with two folding chairs in the roomy rear to make it seven seats.

Our horse, Jewell, shared the barn with the cow which provided our milk. There was a pig raised in the summer for meat for the winter, to be stored in the icehouse together with a side of beef all cut for practical use in the kitchen. Our first dog, Archimedes (called Archy) an English setter, was a donation from Harry, with the name to acknowledge his superior college knowledge. Hoover, an Airedale, came later and indicated our politics. Various cats, birds and squirrels were taken in. When an animal died, we had a funeral with a grave, a cross and a eulogy that always ended with "in the name of the Father, Son and into the hole he goes"! I am not sure when I learned about the Holy Ghost. Living on the river made beaching our summer life. The river water was rather brown from the sand bottom, but clean. Canoes were transported by car to Taylor's Falls, the outlet from Lake Itasca, the birthplace of the Mississippi River, to be paddled home, stopping for lunch or swimming on sand bars. The freezing of the river was not consistently even, so spaces had to be cleared for skating and at times it was possible to drive to Ottisville and skate home the couple of miles in the sunset and early moonlight to the waiting party.

My sister, Irma, (three years younger) and I were spoiled by the older children. Irma, the last baby, and mother clung to each other. She was a beautiful child and very good. I got into frequent trouble. When the porch was being painted, the painters went to lunch, and I proceeded to paint a tree. While my mother cleaned me with kerosene (the only available cleaner of paint in that era), she also cried and said I had punished myself, and that she did not need to. When I painted the bathroom basin with iodine, she said she simply did not want to see me anymore. While I walked around the picket fence wondering what I would do when it became dark, she called me to do a chore, having completely forgotten the mishap. My best friend and "sleep-over" friend, Ann Peterson, reminded me last year of our skipping confirmation class and the resulting furor about joining the church. Each summer I visited Aunt Ada, my father's sister, and her husband, Uncle Charlie Read. Having never had children and having a player piano, I loved being spoiled. My other visit was to my cousin, Lucille, daughter of Helen and Charles Bloom, my mother's brother, who ran a large dairy farm with an early milking machine which fascinated me. They were a musical family. Paul, the oldest, had a band and played at the local bandstand weekly. In the evenings, they gathered around the piano with a couple of instruments and choir voices for a "sing"-classical, religious and popular.

My high school years were rather uneventful since I lived with Edna and Emil Cottor, my sister and brother-in-law, five days a week to attend St. Paul Central High School, returning home to Marine on weekends. This limited my participation in school activities. However, living with the Cottors is one of life's happy memories. Emil Cottor was one of the world's most wonderful men-as a brother-in-law, friend and surrogate father to me. Upon graduation I was accepted for the Liberal Arts program at the University of Minnesota, but it was decided that I would defer my admission for one year to help my parents. My father had sclerosis of the liver and was in a program at the Mayo Clinic and on a strict diet

requiring the weighing of all foods eaten, with frequent visits to the clinic. I was the one with a logical break in my education to take on this responsibility.

That year I learned to know my father and developed an interest in nutrition that subsequently became my college major. My father had a history of too much drinking. He was never allowed to drink at home and went on weekend sprees. I did not believe he was an alcoholic because he always supported his family and provided for the education of all his children as well as the fact that he gave up drinking when prohibition became law. While he was ill, his most frequent visitor was the Lutheran minister, a German scholar. They discussed and argued everything from religion to world affairs as kindred spirits even though my father still refused to go to church. He said it was because he saw how those "holy" hypocrites behaved all week in business.

The next year, 1928, I entered the University of Minnesota. With boundless energy, my enthusiasm included both studies and activities. It was natural that Ken and I meet (he a senior and I a sophomore) since our main activities were with the YWCA and the YMCA. These were the liberal organizations on campus where you discussed such issues as race, war, religion and labor unions.

My YWCA activities led to the chairmanship of the Mid-west YWCA Conference at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, and later to election to Motor Board, the senior women's honor society at state universities, recognizing scholarship and contributions to the life of the college community. Upon graduation in 1932 with a B. S. in Nutrition, I entered an internship program at Rochester University in Rochester, New York, followed by a one-year appointment as an Assistant Instructor at Syracuse University. Ken, upon graduating from the seminary that same year, went to Grand Forks, North Dakota, to be ordained as a Lutheran minister and served two years as minister in the Lutheran Church. We decided to get married that summer and move to Boston. I made two promises for marriage. One, that we would have a dog that would live in the house. Two, that we would live far enough away from Ken's parents so that it was not possible to be with them for every Sunday dinner. The need for emancipation was evident. Ken had a position as a minister in a tiny mission church in East Boston. I secured employment at the Massachusetts General Hospital as a clinical nutritionist.

We were married on June 17, 1933, in Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota, in the family garden (which we called the yard) overlooking the St. Croix River Valley. The ceremony was changed from a church affair when the five pre-teen cousins wanted to be bridesmaids. We left for Boston to spend our time getting settled with Anna "Pete" (Rose) and Ed Leffler in their lovely home in Waban, a suburb of Boston. The Lefflers' was a large, roomy house with a pond in the back yard and a garden large enough to require a professional gardener. Ken entered Boston University Divinity School, and we found a tiny apartment on Beacon Hill in Boston. For the next few years we were to use the Lefflers' home in Waban as our outlet. With only one son, they welcomed our graduate school friends and a regular weekend group developed what we called the "Spaghetti Farm". Ken changed his graduate studies to psychology and social sciences and found a job with the Boston Juvenile Court.

We had moved to Holden Green, Harvard graduate student apartments in Cambridge, to provide house space when David arrived in 1937. When Barbara arrived in 1940, we rented a small house in West Newton near the Lefflers. We lived for ten years in a comfortable but ordinary house (called "King Cottage") on the campus of Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR), a school for problem boys, in Litchfield, Connecticut.

David Wollan's wedding to Christine Netishen
The Maid of Honor is David's sister Barbara

We returned to Boston when Ken took his next position as Director of the Boston Children's Service Association. We bought a house in Hingham (south of Boston), and Ken became a commuter. I found a place as a guidance counselor in the local public high school, which required additional academic training. When Ken Wollan died in 1967 at the age of 61, he left a legacy of the importance of exploring new horizons with new ideas, and he left a richer world in his field of endeavor.

David Wollan earned his Ph.D. and is assistant professor of physics at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and works at the Arms Control Agency in Washington, D. C. He married **Christine Netshen**. They have two children: **Sarah E. Wollan** and **Pierre-Yves Bertholet Wollan.**

Barbara B. Wollan by as told by herself

Barbara Wollan

I grew up in Litchfield, Connecticut, at the Junior Republic where my dad was the director. How many girls can claim to have grown up in a boy's school? The school was for emotionally disturbed and delinquent boys. When I was eleven years old, we moved to Hingham, Massachusetts. Hingham is on the Atlantic Ocean, and we immediately began to participate in all of the activities in the area, including Boston. We belonged to the Hingham Yacht Club. I loved racing sailboats when I was growing up. In addition, we had a family sailboat which provided many happy family hours during sailing season.

In 1958 I was graduated from Hingham High School and went to Lake Erie College in Ohio. I went with the Scandinavian Seminar to Sweden for the 1960-1961 academic year. I was at Vasterberg Folk High School, north of Uppsala, and learned to speak "Svenska". It was one of the most rewarding years of my life, and I still keep in contact with friends in Sweden. The first book I read in Swedish was Moberg's *The Immigrants*. I had the opportunity to travel to both Norway and Denmark and spent my 21st birthday in Paris, France! The Algerians had just invaded Paris, but I preferred to think that they had come to help me celebrate my birthday!

This is Roy Strand's older brother Harry Strand: b. 1891 – d. 1923

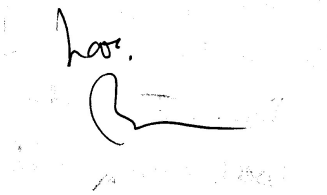
After graduating from Lake Erie College in 1962, I returned to Boston and began a twenty-year career working at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge. I spent five years in the public relations office which included working on publicity for the Apollo moon shot project. In 1967 I began working for Jerome "Jerry" Wiesner as his Senior Staff Assistant when he was Provost and then President of MIT. Jerry had been President Kennedy and Johnson's Science Advisor in Washington before returning to MIT as Provost. I was involved with every major issue of my time from the 60's to the 80's.

After MIT I did special events and meeting planning both at various companies and organizations, and then with my own consulting firm. I did fund raising, alumni reunions, golf tournaments, etc.

Now, in my next career, I am the Director of Human Resources at a small engineering consulting firm in Norwell, Massachusetts, about fifteen minutes from my home.

I moved back to Hingham in the late 1980's and bought a condo. I wanted to be near the water and enjoy the quiet of the suburbs. I wanted to get back to doing some sailing and live near mom. My condo borders on a 450-acre park that is the old Ammunition Depot in Hingham. This place supplied all the ammunition for the North Atlantic Fleet during WWII. The park is clean and a lovely place for walks, jogs and cross-country skiing. Currently, we share the park with coyotes.

My interests include sailing, walking, needlepoint, reading, kayaking, travel and any new adventures that present new challenges and needed skills. My travels have included trips to Greece, Egypt, an overnight in the Arctic (Frobishier Bay on Baffin Island), sailing trips on 52' boats in Tortolla (British Virgin Islands) and a recent trip to the Turks and Caicos in March.



I am really looking forward to the 150th reunion to see many familiar faces and to meet some of you whom I have heard so many stories about over the years. My late father, Ken Wollan, used to say that he married my mother for her family!

6-15-1904 Wallace R. Strand 3-12-1962

Emma and Wallace Strand, Christine Rose,
Anna Christine Peterson (Gustaf Bloom's niece)

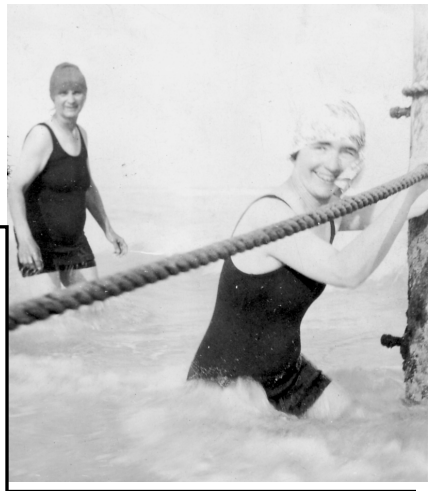
Wallace Strand

—photo by Truman De Marier
Miss LaVon Thompson

Wallace was born in Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota. He was a retailer. He married **LaVonne M. Thompson** on June 3, 1933, in Phoenix, Arizona.

La Von was born in Argillite, Kentucky, and died in Stillwater, Minnesota. Her real name was La Venda. La Von's parents were John William Thompson (b. 12-25-1861, d. 8-8-1926) and Ida Mae McGuire (b. 3-28-1874, d. 4-12-1918). After she was orphaned at age

eleven, she, along with her older brother, was sent to Utah to live with relatives. She lived with an older half-sister, Carrie, who had a child by the same name. They changed her name to La Von to eliminate confusion of two LaVenda's in the same household. La Von never returned to live in her birthplace area or state but did visit a few times during her life. She will always be remembered as a very sweet and kind person. She was the Village Clerk of Marine from 1960-1964. La Von married Clinton Paul on June 7, 1963. Clinton was mayor of Marine and a village councilman. La Von and Wallace had four sons: John, Charles (Chipper), Thomas and Christopher.



Emma Strand in the background and her niece, Estelle Rose. Id by Estelle's daughter - Marian Rose

DEATH NOTICES, 2

STRAND—Wallace R., of Marine on the St. Croix, March 12, age 57. Survived by wife LaVon; 4 sons, John, Tom & Christopher, of Marine, & Charles in Alaska; 1 brother, Roy E. of Marine; 4 sisters, Mrs. G. L. Lindgren, South St. Paul, Mrs. Emil Coltor, St. Paul, Mrs. Kenneth Wollan, of Hingham, Mass., Mrs. G. W. Josephson, Pittsburgh, Pa.; & 1 grandson. Funeral services 2 p. m. Thursday at Christ Lutheran Church at Marine. He will lie in state at church 1 hour before service. Friends may call at the Jones Funeral Home, Stillwater, beginning Wednesday afternoon.

Above: La Von and Estelle Rose Erickson

Strands: Irene, Irma, Marie, Edna, Emma, Roy, La Von, Wallace, Myrtle, Gus Lindgren, Emil Cottor

OFFICE IN HELBERG BLOCK
Lindstrom, Minnesota
Phone: Tri-state 99
Office Hours: 8:30 to 12, 1 to 5

No ..... Lindstrom, Minn., June 4 1923

M r. W allace Strand

To DR. F. BLOOM, Dr.

To Professional Services for .....

From 4/16 1923 To ..... 192 $ 8.00

Credits ..... $ .....

Balance due $ .....

Received Payment ..... D. D. S.

Note .....

Statements are mailed on the first of each month for all services rendered prior to that time. The best business principles demand prompt payment of all bills. I have adopted these principles and earnestly solicit prompt attention

LINDSTROM AUG 1923

Charles was an electrical engineer. Chipper's wife, Doris, owns and operates The Village Scoop ice-cream store behind the former Strand Store in Marine.

Joel and Tracy Strand
Joel is Chipper's son, Wallace's grandson

Tom Strand is a financial consultant.

Ericka, Bridgett, Bonnie, and Tom

Tom's brother, Christopher, (not shown) is an electrical engineer

The Strand Gazette, Wm. Strand, editor; Marilyn Strand and Mrs. Roy Strand, reporters.

Bill Strand born 1931
high school Graduation

October 4, 1942

Notice: If you have any old tin cans, give them to Billy Strand. He is saving them for scrap.

Editorial: Billy Strand was over at his cousin Jackie's yesterday.

Local and Social:

Today is Mrs. Roy Strand's birthday. Yesterday afternoon the birthday club had a party for her.

Mrs. Emma Strand and Mrs. Wesley Josephson had a luncheon Saturday at which they entertained

Mrs. Henning Erickson, Mrs. Ed Leffler, Mrs. Harold Anderson, Mrs. A. C. Rose, Miss Jennie Monson, Mrs. G. L. Lindgren, Mrs. Wallace Strand and Mrs. Roy Strand.

The hills in Wisconsin have donned their most beautiful colors of scarlet, gold, green and brown.

Miss Marilyn Strand was the dinner and overnight guest of Mrs. Emma Strand and Mrs. Irma Josephson Saturday.

Dr. and Mrs. E.V. Strand of Bayport visited with Mrs. Emma Strand, Mrs. Irma Josephson and Mrs. G. L. Lindgren Saturday evening.

Tuesday Mrs. Charles Strand, Mrs. Wesley Josephson and Johnnie and Mrs. Roy Strand were guests of Mrs. Henning Erickson.

The Marine school bus will be used to take the Marine Sunday School teachers and other persons interested to a Christian Education meeting at Trinity Church in Stillwater Sunday P.M.

Mrs. Al Lilja, nee Eunice Bloom of Texarkana, Texas, visited Mrs. Wesley Josephson and Mrs. Emma Strand Friday afternoon.

February, 1944

On February 6th Betty and Marilyn went to Willmar to take part in a Red Cross Benefit Program. Marilyn played in the Gustavus Adolphus Band and Betty sang with the chorus.

Grandma Strand is now at Lindgren's very much improved in health.

Aunt Christine was out to lunch with Estelle not long ago.

Billy has just received pictures taken last fall of David and Barbara by the bunny cage and Johnny in the wagon with Billy standing nearby.

Mae and the children were at Roy and Myrtle's for supper on February 16. There were valentine decorations, napkins and heart cookies to make it festive.

LaVon spent a few days in Rochester with Lavenda who is a patient there. Jackie stayed with Billy. While eating breakfast one morning he said when his mother burned the toast she scraped off the "rust".

Roy stopped at the Cottor home while in the city recently. Roy and LaVon got new glasses the same day.

Important birthdays coming in March are Roy Strand March 9, Richard Strand March 10, Johnny Josephson March 18, Aunt Mary Bloom March 25, and LaVon and Chipper Strand March 31.

POEM

Ten little Injuns standing in a line-
One went home, and then there were nine.

Nine little Injuns swinging on a gate-
One tumbled off, and then there were eight.

Eight little Injuns tried to get to heaven-
One kicked the bucket, and then there were seven.

Seven little Injuns cutting up tricks-
One went to bed, and then there were six.

Six little Injuns learning how to dive-
One swam away, and then there were five.

Five little Injuns on a cellar door-
One jumped off, and then there were four.

Four little Injuns climbing up a tree-
One fell down and then there were three.

Three little Injuns out in a canoe-
One fell overboard, and then there were two.

Two little Injuns fooling with a gun-
One shot the other, and then there was one.

One little Injun living all alone-
He got married, and then there was none!

March, 1944

Editorial: Due to the great number of subscribers for The Strand Gazette, I can't accept any more subscriptions. However, the present subscriptions will continue as usual.

News:

David and Barbara Wollan have recovered from the measles. Litchfield has winter weather the same as Marine.

Mr. And Mrs. Loren Bloom and Jana and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rose were guests at Johnny Josephson's birthday party. He is two years old now.

Miss Jennie Monson and Mrs. Jennie Seashore helped Aunt Mary Bloom celebrate her 84th birthday. They, with Mrs. Winnie LeVine called on Mrs. Roy Strand. Dr. Rosel Seashore is stationed somewhere in the Aleutian Islands. Harold is in Chicago and Willmette, Stanley is in Pittsburgh, Mauritz in Virginia, Selma in Alabama and Sylvia in England.

Uncle Ed Bloom called one day to inquire about the relatives. He said Aunt Minnie had been in California five weeks with Eunice who had undergone a kidney operation. Eunice is improving nicely.

Mrs. Irene Lindgren stayed a few days when she brought her mother home. Emmy Lou is planning to spend part of Easter vacation in New York.

Carl Bloom is to be married soon and his sister, Gladys Dahl, is giving a party for the bridal couple April 13. You are invited to attend same.

Miss Millie Carlson, Miss Lena Peterson, Aunt Christine, and Mrs. Estelle Erickson were entertained at a coffee party at the Lindgren home in honor of Mrs. Emma Strand.

Mr. And Mrs. Roy Strand and Billy and Mrs. Wallace Strand attended Mr. Axel Johnson's funeral in South St. Paul on Sunday, March 26. They also visited with the Cottor family. Anne

is employed at the University in the chemistry department. Bob is learning to play the trumpet. He attends Breck School in St. Paul.

Mrs. Wallace Strand, Jack and Chipper had supper with the Bayport cousins March 30.

Chipper Strand attended the Shrine Circus recently with the Rowland family. He said, "the boys walked on clothes lines and the girls that rode on horses forgot their dresses and just wore their little underpants". He liked the animals, too.

Mr. Willie Bloom has been at St. John's Hospital for a hernia.

A missionary group from G.A.C. conducted the service at church on Sunday, March 19. George Schwanenberg of Minneapolis gave the sermon, Laurel Lindberg of Dresser Junction sang the liturgy. Phyllis Anderson of Swea City, Iowa sang a solo and also sang with Betty and Marilyn Strand accompanied by Gloria Piesold of Elbow Lake, MN.

April, 1944:

Editorial News: Monday, April 10, Mrs. Lorentz Larson took Roger and Dale Larson, Darryle Peterson, Mrs. Amanda Carlson, Mrs. Roy Strand and Billy to see "Lassie Come Home" in Stillwater.

News:

The ice went out of the river the latter part of March. Everyone is busy raking yards and burning leaves. Billy S. has done his share.

Easter flowers in church consisted of yellow jonquils in the large vases, baskets of laurel and pussy willows and pink hydrangea plants. Grandma's pink rose plant was on the piano and her lily on the altar in front of the Easter Cross.

Chipper and Jack Strand have recovered from the measles.

Edna Cottor is taking treatments at Midway Hospital. We're sure she would appreciate mail.

Emmy Lou Lindgren is going to Mankato Friday to compete in the state finals in debating.

Mrs. E. V. Strand has accepted a teaching position in the Bayport School for next year. She will teach Home Economics and General Science.

Jim Strand will be confirmed in May.

Irma Josephson has her birthday April 7th and Wesley's is the 19th. They celebrated one evening by going to a Chinese restaurant. They watched the Chinese eat soup with chopsticks.

The Schumman Chorus at G.A.C. has been promised a three-day tour.

Asa Parker house built in 1856.

Emma and Charles Strand house (it is The 1856 Asa Parker house)
Marine on St. Croix as seen today

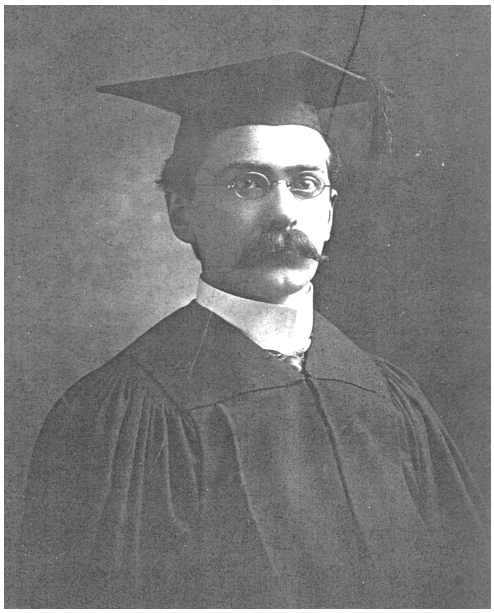
Della and Joseph Bloom were married here April 03,1904. Della was Emma's domestic at that time, and her room was the only upstairs bedroom that had its own staircase that went right into the kitchen.

1. Dr. Frank BLOOM D.D.S (b.1871-Center City,Township 33,S,L;d.1932-Bethesda Hospital)

sp: Ms Ruth Evangeline PORTER (b.1888-Center City,M;m.1911;d.1971-Saint Peter,Minnesota)

- 2. Mr. Vincent Porter BLOOM (b.1913;d.1990)
- 2, Ms Lavinia BLOOM (b.1924;d.2008)
  - sp: Mr. Ross BLOOMQUIST (b.1923;m.1946;d.1998)
    - 3, Mr. Timothy Ross BLOOMQUIST (b.1947)
      - sp: Ms Sandra LEASURE (b.1947;m.1967)
        - 4, Mr. Aaron Aldrich BLOOMQUIST (b.1969)
          - sp: Ms Kristina SUNESON (b.1968;m.2003)
            - 5. Ms Anna BLOOMQUIST (b.2000)
            - 5. Ella Rose BLOOMQUIST (b.2002)
        - 4, Mr. Ross Victor BLOOMQUIST (b.1971)
          - sp: Ms Lea MAGAT
            - 5. Ms Oliva L. BLOOMQUIST (b.1999)
            - 5. Aidan R. BLOOMQUIST (b.2003)
        - 4, Mr. Adam Timothy BLOOMQUIST (b.1975)
          - sp: Ms Amy SCHULTE
            - 5. Ms Hazel Lavina BLOOMQUIST (b.2005)
            - 5. Ms Estelle BLOOMQUIST (b.2010)
    - 3, Ms Marcia Kay BLOOMQUIST (b.1949)
      - sp: Mr. Gary PEHRSON (m.(Div))
        - 4, Ms Angela Faith PEHRSON (b.1968)
          - sp: Mr Unknown LARSON (m.(Div))
            - 5. Mr Nickolas LARSON (b.1989)
            - 5. Ms Tea' LARSON (b.1992)
      - sp: Mr. Leonard VYSKOCIL (m.(Div))
        - 4, Mr. Alexander VYSKOCIL (b.1974)
          - sp: Ms Colleen
            - 5. Mr Alexander VYSKOCIL (b.2006)
      - sp: Mr. Russell Casey OLSON (m.(Div))
      - sp: Mr. Robert W. NELSON (m.2005)
    - 3, Ms Elizabeth Ross BLOOMQUIST (b.1953)
      - sp: Mr. Greg LUNDGREN (m.1978)
        - 4. Mr Benjamin LUNDGREN (b.1984)
        - 4. Mr. Joseph LUNDGREN (b.1989)
        - 4. Mr. Lukas LUNDGREN (b.1992)

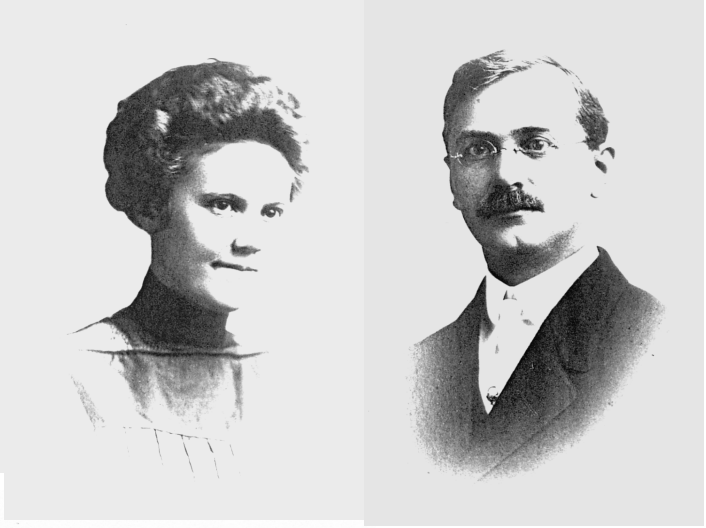
5-11-1871 Frank Bloom 6-12-1932



Frank graduated from Northwestern University School of Dentistry in Chicago, Illinois, in 1900 (this date is inconsistent with the caption to the picture below which shows Dr. Bloom with a patient in his dental chair. That picture would indicate that he graduated several years earlier. Comment added - Milan Bloom). He had to go outside of Minnesota because the University of Minnesota did not have a dental school at that time. In the early days of his dental practice, there were no hotels in the Chisago Lakes area. If a patient came from out of town and needed extensive work, the patient stayed overnight at Frank's house. His dental practice and his home were in Lindstrom. Frank was also one of the original organizers of the Security State Bank of Lindstrom, and he was its first president. He married **Ruth Porter**. They had two children: **Vincent** and **Lavinia**.

After Frank died, Ruth married **H. E. Sanstedt**.

Vincent never married. He worked primarily as a filling station attendant and as a custodian.



Frank was the first president of Security State Bank in Lindstrom, Minnesota. It is now Lake Area Bank.

As reported by Svenska Emigrantinstitutet,Växjö, Sweden

Gustaf Bloom's second wife Elin and Lavinia's brother Vincent.
Stepgrandma Elin Carlson 1829-1915
Elin was well liked by Gustaf's children and lived out her final years with Edward

Frank, Ruth and Vincent.
Vincent b. 1913

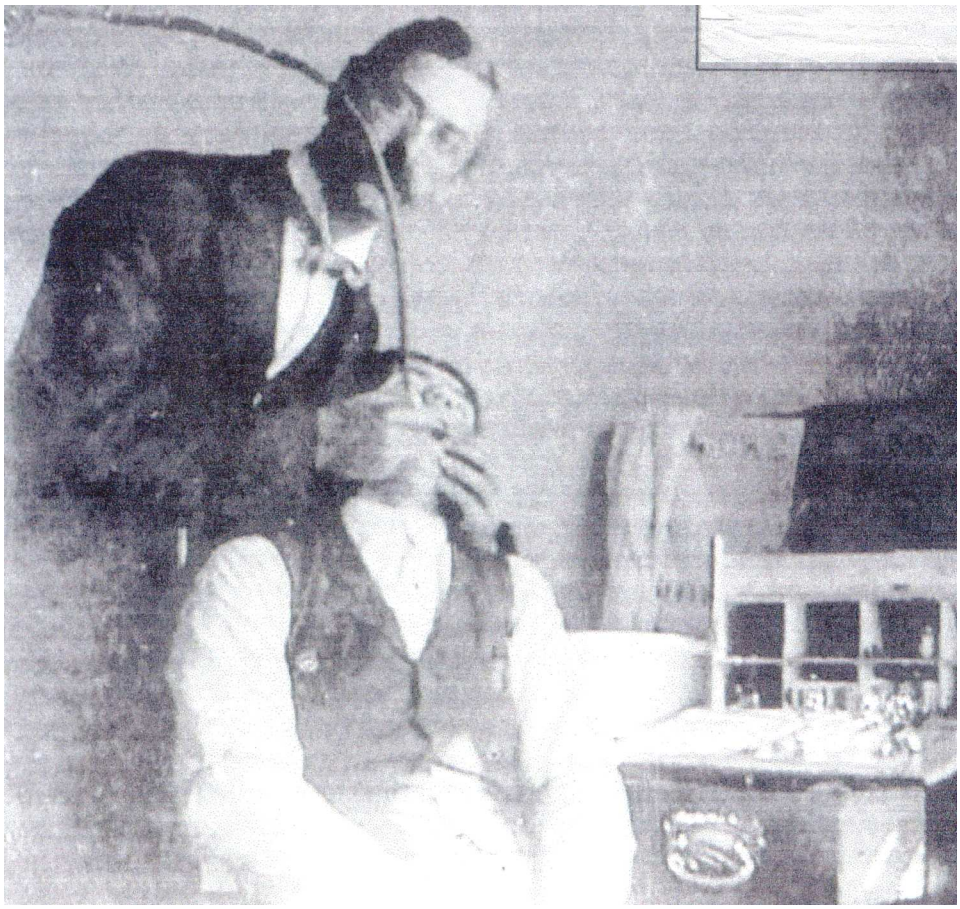
Lavinia married **Ross Bloomquist**. She was employed as a nursing instructor. Ross was Vice President and Treasurer of Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. Lavinia and Ross had three children: Elizabeth, Marcia and Timothy.

Timothy Bloomquist married **Sandra K. Leasure**. He is a District Court Judge of the Tenth Judicial District in Minnesota (Mora, Minnesota). They have three children: Aaron, Ross and Adam.

Aaron A. Bloomquist is married to **Kristina Suneson**. He is the Director of Pricing at Fairview Health Services. They have two children: **Anna** and **Ella Rose.**

Ross V. Bloomquist is married to **Lea Magat**. He is a loan officer at the City and County Credit Union in St. Paul, Minnesota. They have two children: **Olivia** and **Aidan**.

Adam T. Bloomquist is married to **Amy Schulte**. He is the owner of American Residential Appraisals.



1895 Dr. Frank Bloom with Alfred Jonason

In 1895, his office was above the Bloom store in Chisago City, Minnesota. In later years, Wilhelmina Bloom (Wilhelm's daughter) worked as a dental assistant for Frank. Also, Frank's niece, Irene Johnson (David's daughter) worked in his dental office. Yes, that would be a slow foot pedal operated drill.

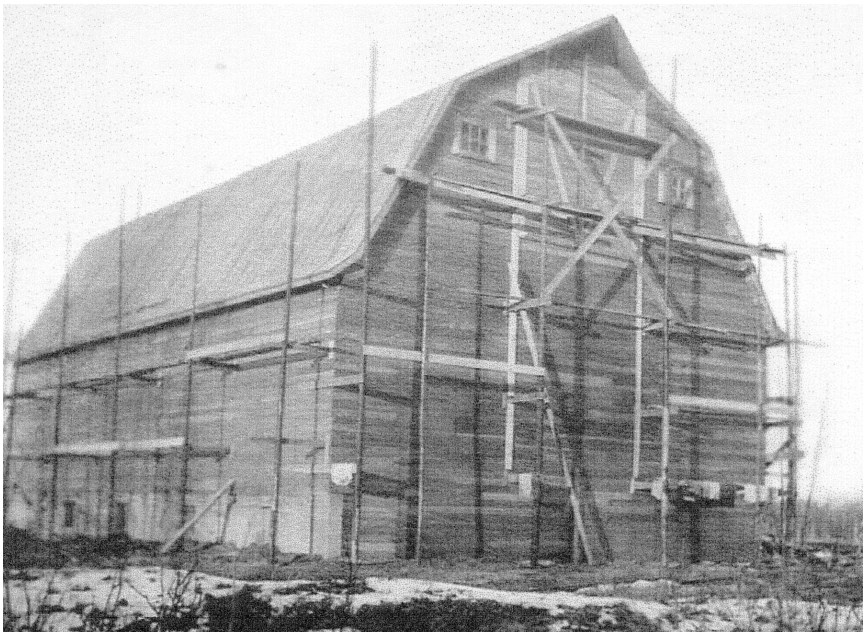
Any story about Gustaf's son Frank, the Dentist, must include a description of his very significant financial involvement with his brother Joseph's farming operation in Warroad, Minnesota. In fact, not only was his support to Joseph substantial, but it may well have been just one small example of the financial help he provided many other people . Just to make it clear, however, Frank wasn't the sole source of Joseph's farming capital as was commonly thought by Joseph's children.

Frank Bloom's farm in Cedarbend Township south of Warroad, Minnesota (picture taken in 2003). This farm was first owned by Joseph Bloom 1903-1906. Today, it consists of everything the eye can see on the right-hand side of this little road. The original buildings were down at the horizon among the trees in the distance. Directions to this farm: follow county road 5 south from Warroad until coming to Highway 12; turn west on Highway 12, go 2 miles, turn north on a small gravel road and approach Frank's farm from the south.

To describe how closely Frank and his brother Joseph were aligned I (Milan Bloom) need to tell the following story: The writing style is intentional and works best when read aloud. Also, 2006 dollars are shown in parenthesis.):

In 1902, Joe Bloom, started the standard five-year homesteading process on his 160 acre farm 2 ½ miles south of Warroad (the farm house is still occupied although its location was changed in 1918 and at some point was enlarged). Then on October 28, 1903, Joe bought "out-right" his second 160 acre farm (see picture on previous page) for $1,400 ($31,500). This farm was in section 13, Cedarbend Township, Roseau County three miles to the south. He must have moved to Warroad with plenty of money because he sure didn't make it in Warroad (he came to Warroad on June 3, 1901). Then in 1906, he sold this Cedarbend farm to his brother Frank, for $1,500 ($33,700). Incidentally, I doubt that Frank really wanted that Cedarbend farm - but brother Joe needed help.

On May 31, 1916 Joe borrowed $2,200 ($40,800) from Frank. Securing this loan meant Joe had to gave his brother half interest to his 160 acre homestead. Now, it was common practice in those days to "deed over" real estate rather then simply mortgage it and some people lost their property that way. What would happen was that even though the debtor eventually paid off the loan, the financier wouldn't give them their deed back; they simply denied the circumstances and keep the deed. Well now he needed a barn - a really big barn and so he needed lots of money. Now according to Joe's oldest son, Roy (1906 - 1995), Joe moved his cattle into this barn in 1916. Incidentally, Frank visited Joe in 1916, and while I can't be certain, It must have been spring because it was about the same time that the Warroad Presbyterian Church held their "**Right of Confirmation."** Anyway, Frank must have come to work out the details of the $2,200 barn loan.



Earlier, I reported that Joe's brother Frank bought the Cedarbend farm in 1906 for $1,500 (33,500). Also, I noted that Frank probably didn't really want it. So now it's October 10, 1923 and Frank has a chance to get rid of it, so on that date he sold his farm for $2,400 ($28,485) to a local family. Well, I should think that Frank said "Good riddance" to the property which by now he had owned for 17 years. Unfortunately, this sale didn't work out as will be seen later. Frank's brother Joe did farm it, but I have reason to believe that the only crop was hay and I doubt that Frank got any benefit from that. Then in 1931, Frank took the property back from this local family because of payment default and after that Joe did grow potatoes and perhaps other crops on Frank's property. I suspect that Frank got some financial return from these more valuable crops.

Now back to Oct 10, 1923. On that day, Frank accepts this local families' down payment of $400 ($4,750) and took a promissory note for the balance of $2,000 ($23,740) The interest was 6% per annum with the total due in 5 years. Incidentally, family legend has it that Frank always charged 8% interest but his rate never exceeded 6% - family stories do get twisted.

On July 22, 1926 Frank sells back his half interest in Joe's 160 homestead for $1.00. He did this because Joe had paid back the $2,200, 1916 loan. (Joe needed to get clear title back because he was about to

borrow another $5,800 ($66,370) that same day). Now what do you suppose Joe Bloom used for collateral to secure the $5,800? Well he deeded over his entire 160 acres of course. Yes, it would appear that Frank owned the entire Joe Bloom homestead. To make this transaction work, the land had to be valued at $36.25 per acre ($415). Incidentally, I doubt Joe's 160 acre farm was worth $5,800 in 1926 since it appraised for only $6,000, 21 years later in 1947.

On December 14, 1931 Frank took the Cedarbend farm back from "this local family" for $1.00. Frank didn't have much choice because the loan was in default, and he most likely knew he was terminally ill with Hodgkin's disease. His only other alternative was to leave this real-estate "loose end" to his wife, Ruth, to fix after his death. Six months later on June 12, 1932, Frank died. He was only 61.

A month after Frank's death (July 26, 1932) the probate judge processed Frank Bloom's *Last Will and Testament* which was written on January 11, 1919. (See text of Frank's Last Will and Testament included in this chapter). Frank's will directed that his assets were to be divided as follows: 2/3 to his wife and 1/3 to his son, Vincent (b. 1913). Since Lavinia wasn't born until Jan 1, 1924 she wasn't mentioned in the will. There is, however, a document at the Roseau County Courthouse that says that Lavinia sold her interest in the estate to her mother. Lavinia doesn't remember this, but then she was only eight years old when her father died. Notice that in paragraph five of the will, it states that when son Vincent became of age he would get 1/3 of what was remaining in the estate "*...Provided always that the remaining two-thirds shall be sufficient for the maintenance of my said wife, Ruth Evangeline in the manner to which she is accustomed*". In other words if Ruth ran short, Vincent had to pick-up the slack.

On April 30, 1936 Frank's widow, Ruth, sells her 160 acre Cedarbend farm for $1.00 plus "other good and valuable consideration." What do you suppose this "other" consideration was? After 30 years, the farm that Frank and Ruth most likely didn't want, not to mention the years of paying property taxes for a farm that doubtfully made them much money, was gone.

So now brother Frank is gone but Joe still needs working capital, so on May 31, 1938 Joe goes to Frank's widow, Ruth, and borrows $4,200 ($60,363). Again the interest rate was 6% with the interest payable annually and principle was payable in 5 years. If your are wondering if the $5,800 was paid back before this new loan was taken out, be advised that it wasn't, at least not all of it. Simply stated, I don't know how Joe was able to deed over part or all of his farm to Ruth for $4,200 if some of the 1926, $5,800 loan was still outstanding. Of course it's possible that he had been paying down his 1926 loan but it doesn't seem to me that Joe made regular payments. But the Frank Blooms were easy going – and in later years, Joe's wife, Della, said as much to her youngest son.

On June 17, 1940 the $5,800 that Joe borrowed in 1926 was paid off. Others may analyze this high finance differently, but it looks to me that from May 31, 1938 until June 17, 1940, the Bloom's may have been in debt to Sister-in-law Ruth for as much as $10,000 ($144,405). Problem is, in 1940, the Joe Bloom farm wasn't worth more then perhaps $5,000 ($72,000) since it was appraised for only $6,000 when the estate was sold in 1947. Granted, Joe may have been paying down his 1926 debt over the years so it may not have been as bad as it looks but it wasn't until 1948, when Joe and Della's estate was finally settled, that Ruth's involvement with Joe and Della's finances was over.

For more details concerning Frank's involvement in his brother Joe's farm operation, please refer to the Chapter 12 – Joe Bloom, Story.

#93003 V

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT.

Frank Bloom
- To -
Ruth Evangeline Bloom, et al.

Filed for record the 4 day of June, A. D. 1936 at 3 o'clock P.M.
J. A. Burkee, Register of Deeds

- - - - -

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN:

I, Frank Bloom of Lindstrom in the County of Chisago, State of Minnesota, being of sound mind and memory, and considering the uncertainty of this frail and transitory life, do therefore make, ordain, publish and declare this to be my last will and testament:

First, I order and direct that my executrix hereinafter named, pay all my just debts and funeral expenses, as soon as may be after my decease;

Second, I give, devise and bequeath all my estate whatsoever and wheresoever situate, both real and personal, to which I may be entitled, or which I may have the power to dispose of at my death, unto my beloved wife, Ruth Evangeline Bloom, subject, however, to the following trusts:

My said wife, Ruth Evangeline Bloom, to hold and have absolute control of all of my estate as aforesaid during the minority of my son, Vincent Porter Bloom, with power to use the income thereof, or to sell, dispose or otherwise alienate the assets of the said estate for the maintenance and support of herself and for the [illegible] Vincent Porter, or for any other purpose, which may in her judgment be expedient or necessary;

At the coming of age of my said son, Vincent Porter, it is my will and desire that he shall be entitled to an undivided one-third, or an amount equal to one-third of such portion of my estate as shall at that time remain. Provided always that the remaining two-thirds shall be sufficient for the maintenance of my said wife, Ruth Evangeline in the manner to which she is accustomed.

Third, in the event of the remarriage of my said wife, Ruth Evangeline, it is my desire that all of my estate as aforesaid shall descend to my said wife and son share and share alike of such portion of my estate as shall at such time remain. Provided, nevertheless, that the share of my said son, Vincent Porter, during minority, shall be held by my said wife in trust for him subject to his maintenance, support and education.

Under either of the contingencies of this will the share to which my said wife shall be entitled shall be her absolutely.

Fourth, I, hereby appoint my said wife, Ruth Evangeline Bloom, the guardian of my said son, Vincent Porter, during his minority, and the executrix of this my last will and testament, and it is my wish that as such guardian and executrix no bond be required of her.

In testimony whereof, I, Frank Bloom, have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal, the eleventh day of January, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nineteen.

Frank Bloom

The first documented Bloom reunion was at Frank Bloom's home at 30615 Maple Street, Lindstrom. The year is 1907 and the day was most likely the 5th of June since that was the date of Roy Bloom's Baptism in Gustaf's church. Roy's family from Warroad (the Joe Blooms) is in the photograph. Frank was not married until 1911.

The Frank and Ruth (Porter) Bloom house today (Picture taken at dusk). 30615 Maple Street, Lindstrom.

The following quote is found in the Minutes of Bloom reunions: **"July 6, 1952, the annual reunion was held at Frederic, Wisconsin. Our hosts were Reverend [Herman] and Mrs. [Ruth Porter Bloom] Sanstedt. Ruth Porter Bloom Sanstedt gave a message of welcome."**

Pictures of Frank and Ruth Porter Bloom and family

Above: Frank Bloom and Ruth (Porter) Bloom. On the left, Frank is checking out Ruth's earring and Ruth is looking in a mirror. On the right, it is difficult to say, but Ruth is holding up her left hand. Should we suppose that this is the day they were engaged or married? [Some additional detail is viewable when picture is enlarged]. Note: Frank Bloom had owned the house since 1907 or before.

Above: Ruth Porter Bloom is in this picture but I (Milan Bloom) don't know for sure which person she is. I do know that the picture was taken August 1, 1937. In this picture, Frank's wife, Ruth, is 49 years old.

Lavina Bloom (b. 1924 - 2008)
Vincent Bloom (b. 1913 d. 1990)

Lavina Bloom
1924 - 2008

Ruth Porter Bloom's Maternal Grandfather:

John Löngquist.

He was a Civil War veteran and was an earlier owner (actually, I – Milan - think the first owner) of the Willie and Anna Bloom Farm on Bloom Lake. He shot a deer through the open window of his bedroom on that farm.

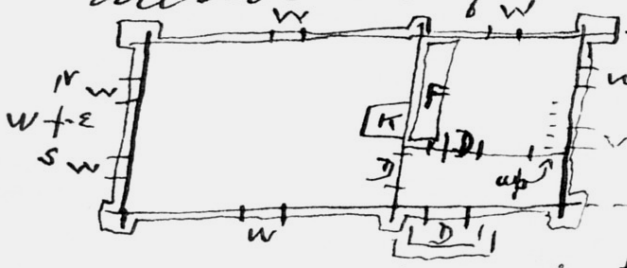
Above: From left to right, this is Florence and Roy Bloom (both from the Joe Bloom family). I (Milan) got this picture in New York where Florence (Joe Bloom's daughter) had lived for many years. Florence labeled the other girl as "Lavina". On October 1, 2003, I (Milan Bloom) called Frank and Ruth Porter Bloom's daughter, Lavina Bloom Bloomquist, and she confirmed that it is her.

The house of our Grandpa Gustaf Blom's Uncle Lars in Sweden.

Anton Rose sent his Uncle Frank Bloom the letter below. The letter was written in Sweden during Anton's trip there in 1929. The house Anton was referring to is the one pictured above, and it belonged to our Gustaf Blom's Uncle Lars in the 1800's. It was still in our Uncle Lars's family in 1929.

Frank

This Old Bloom house - -
is very interesting! The little
chimney is on the part that was
added after Lars Bloms days -
and probably after grandpa
came to Am. The line in
the wall betw. the door and the
far window is the old "Knut"
the line near the door - on the
side - is a partition - partitions
were also of timber. All the
rooms had low ceilings - and
stairway is very narrow. Much
of Smaland architecture re-
minds me of New England.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1. Mr. Edward Ansgarius BLOOM (b.1873-Center City,T3,S7,L7M;d.1959-Forest Lake,Mn)

sp: Ms Wilhelmina Charlotte MATTSON (b.1876-Chisago County,MN;m.1898;d.1950-Bethesda Hos)

- 2, Mr. Gilbert Reynolds BLOOM (b.1898-Lent Township,CC,MN;d.1935-St. Paul,MN)
  - sp: Ms Margaret BOESEL (b.1904-St. Paul,MN;m.1925;d.1981-St. Paul,MN)
    - 3, Mr. Richard BLOOM (b.1927-St. Paul,MN)
      - sp: Ms Lillian FEHRING (b.1926-St. Paul,MN;m.1955)
        - 4, Dr. Kathleen BLOOM (b.1960-St. Paul,MN)
          - sp: Mr. Gregory WHITE (b.1954;m.1986)
            - 5. Ms Leslie WHITE (b.1988-St. Paul,MN)
            - 5. Ms Courtney WHITE (b.1990-St. Paul,MN)
            - 5. Ms Melanie WHITE (b.1995-St. Paul,MN)
        - 4, Mr. William BLOOM (b.1962-St. Paul,MN)
          - sp: Ms Mary RIEHM (b.1963-St. Paul,MN;m.1994)
            - 5. Mr. Alexander BLOOM (b.1997-St. Paul,MN)
            - 5. Mr. Benjamin BLOOM (b.2001)
- 2, Mr. Ellis Ansgarius BLOOM (b.1901-Franconia Township;d.1972-Chisago Lakes Extended Care,C)
  - sp: Ms Elvera Eleanor LYDEEN (b.1906-Chisago City,MN;m.1927;d.1999-Fair View Hospital,W)
    - 3, Ms Carol Joanne BLOOM (b.1933-St.Paul,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Ted Roger PREISLER (b.1932-Lindstrom,Mn;m.1951;d.2006-Forest Lake,M)
        - 4, Ms Jody Louise PREISLER (b.1955-Forest Lake,MN)
          - sp: Mr. Donald KLINE (b.1959;m.(Div))
            - 5, Mr. Shawn Preston PREISLER (b.1975-Forest Lake,MN)
              - sp: Ms Annie Catherine RANGITCH (b.1977-St. Paul,MN;m.2000)
                - 6. Ms Anika PREISLER (b.2002)
                - 6. Ms Abrey PREISLER (b.2004)
                - 6. Mr. Elijah PREISLER (b.2006)
                - 6. Mr. Orion PREISLER (b.2009)
                - 6. Mr. Amittai PREISLER (b.2009)
            - 5, Ms Jilliane Mary Louise KLINE (b.1980-Forest Lake,MN)
              - sp: Mr. Joshua LEHNER
                - 6. Mr. Preston Shawn LEHNER (b.2001-St. Paul,MN)
                - 6. MR. Ezra LEHNER (b.2005)
          - sp: Mr. Richard John VINAR (b.1956;m.1999(Div))
        - 4, Mr. Scott Ellis PREISLER (b.1958-Forest Lake,MN;d.1995-Forest Lake,MN)
          - sp: Ms Tomianne CARON (m.1988)
            - 5, Mr. Adam Thomas PREISLER (b.1988)
              - sp: UNKNOWN
                - 6. Mr. Kaiden PREISLER (b.2007)
            - 5. Ms Jillian Rose Caron PREISLER (b.1985){A}
          - sp: Ms Carol PELOQUIN
            - 5. Mr. Richard Allan PELOQUIN (b.1983-Forest Lake,MN)
        - 4, Ms Wendy Suzanne PREISLER (b.1959-Forest Lake,MN)
          - sp: Mr. Kevin MCKINNON (b.1959;m.1978)
            - 5, Mr. Corey Joseph Michael MCKINNON (b.1979-Kennewick,WA)
              - sp: Ms Andrea Christine PELTIER (b.1979-St. Paul,MN;m.2001)
                - 6. Ms Malia MCKINNON (b.2004)
                - 6. Mr. Malachi MCKINNON (b.2006)
                - 6. Mr. Mavarak McKinnon
            - 5. Mr. Ryan Paul MCKINNON (b.1982-Forest Lake,MN)

- sp: Ms Heidi BJORK (b.1983)
  - 6. Mr. Ryder MCKINNON (b.2009)
- 5. Ms Angela Carol MCKINNON (b.1987-St. Paul,MN)

3. Ms Suzanne Harriet BLOOM (b.1940-St. Paul,MN)
- sp: Mr. Francis William SCHLAEGER (b.1940-Minneapolis,MN;m.1960)
  - 4. Mr. Brent Francis SCHLAEGER (b.1964-Chisago City,MN)
    - sp: Ms Sheri Diane ERICKSON (b.1965;m.1987(Div))
      - 5. Ms Brianna Lauren SCHLAEGER (b.1990-ST. Paul,MN)
      - 5. Mr. Colin Ellis SCHLAEGER (b.1993-Chisago City,MN)
    - sp: Ms Karen Elizabeth MEYER (b.1965;m.2008(Div))
    - sp: Ms Libby YAHNKE (b.1965)
      - 5. Ms Kayla YAHNKE (b.1995)
  - 4. Ms Deanne Lynette SCHLAEGER (b.1965-Chisago City,MN)
    - sp: Mr. Charles Allen KNUTSON (b.1962-Fergus Falls,MN;m.1986)
      - 5. Mr. Josiah Emerson KNUTSON (b.1988-Minneapolis,MN)
        - sp: Ms Patricia Ann FULLER (b.1988;m.2008)
          - 6. Mr. Oliver Charles KNUTSON (b.2009)
      - 5. Mr. Micah Charles KNUTSON (b.1990)
      - 5. Mr. Isaac William KNUTSON (b.1993-Minneapolis,MN)
      - 5. Mr. Eli Thomas KNUTSON (b.1999-Wyoming,MN)
  - 4. Ms Heidi Suzanne SCHLAEGER (b.1968-Chisago City,MN)
    - sp: Mr. Peter FLOM (m.1994;d.2007)
      - 5. Mr. Brandon Anthony FLOM (b.1995-ST. Cloud,MN)
      - 5. Ms Madeline Kate FLOM (b.1997-Glenwood,MN)
      - 5. Ms Eleigh Grace FLOM (b.2001-Alexandria,MN)
- 3. Ms Sharon Louise BLOOM (b.1942-Forest Lake,MN)
  - sp: Mr. Gerald KARI (m.(Div))
    - 4. Ms Lisa KARI (b.1962-St. Louis,MO)
      - sp: Mr. Steve GAMER (b.1961-Minneapolis,MN;m.1996(Div))
        - 5. Ms Chelsey GAMER (b.1992-St. Paul,MN)
        - 5. Ms Christina GAMER (b.1995-Chisago City,MN)
    - 4. Ms Leslie KARI (b.1964-St. Paul,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Jim DOUGHERTY (m.(Div))
    - 4. Mr. Matthew KARI (b.1965-St. Paul,MN)
      - sp: Ms Suzanne (b.1957-St. Paul,MN;m.1998)
        - 5. Mr. Nathaniel KARI (b.1985-Osceola,WI)
      - sp: Ms Sherilyn OLSON (m.(Div))
    - 4. Mr. Mark KARI (b.1966-St. Paul,MN)
      - sp: Ms Tari (b.1966-Fullerton,CA;m.1988)
        - 5. Mr. Zachary KARI (b.1990-St. Louis,MO)
        - 5. Mr. Tyler KARI (b.1992-St. Louis,MO)
        - 5. Mr. Calab KARI (b.1994-Chisago City,MN)
        - 5. Ms Marissa KARI (b.1995-Chisago City,MN)
        - 5. Ms Adaira KARI (b.1997-Chisago City,MN)
    - 4. Mr. Paul KARI (b.1968-St.Paul,MN)
  - sp: Mr. Ronald PETERSON (b.1939-Grandy,MN;m.1987)

2. Mr. Chester Augustine BLOOM (b.1903-Shafer,MN;d.1989-Forest Lake,Mn)
- sp: Ms Doris M HANSON (b.1920-Shafer,MN;m.1944;d.2005-Forest Lake,Minnesota,I presume)
  - 3. Mr. Steven Chester BLOOM (b.1947-Shafer,MN)
    - sp: Ms Kathy BREUER
  - 3. Ms Jennifer BLOOM (b.1953-Red Wing,MN)

sp: Mr. Randolph PETERSON (b.1953-Minneapolis,MN;m.1977)
4. Ms Haley PETERSON (b.1990-Minneapolis,MN)
4. Mr. Carter PETERSON (b.1993)
3, Ms Nancy BLOOM (b.1954-Red Wing,MN)
sp: Mr. Steve HURSH (b.1952-St.Paul,MN;m.1975)
4, Mr. Jeremy Joel HURSH (b.1978-Forest Lake,Mn)
sp: Ms Allison (b.1978-ST. Paul,MN;m.2000)
4, Ms Emily HURSH (b.1980-Forest Lake,Mn)
sp: Mr. Andrew FISH
4, Ms Stephine HURSH (b.1982-Forest Lake,Mn)
sp: Mr. Mathew DAVIDS
2, Mr. Loren Albert Franconia BLOOM (b.1907)
sp: Ms Madge TRACY (d.1970)
3, Ms Jana BLOOM
sp: Mr. William O'NEIL (m.(Div))
4. Ms Kathleen O'NEIL
4. Ms Molly O'NEIL
sp: Ms Mildred NAST
3, Ms Lois Nast BLOOM
sp: Mr. Charles LOWERY
4. Ms Michelle LOWERY
4. Ms Shawn LOWERY
4. Mr. Tyler LOWERY
4. Mr. Wade LOWERY
3, Mr. Paul BLOOM
sp: Ms Florence MINTON
4. Mr. Timothy Nast BLOOM
4. Mr. Kenneth Nast BLOOM
4. Mr. Brian Nast BLOOM
2, Ms Eunice Wilhelmina Caroline BLOOM (b.1910-Chisago City,MN;d.1989-Laguna Beach,CA)
sp: Mr. Albert LILJA (d.1992-Laguna Beach,CA)
3. Mr. Harold LILJA
3, Mr. Paul LILJA (b.1949)
sp: Ms Lavon ALLMON
4. Ms Deanna LILJA
2. Ms Carline BLOOM (b.1910)
2. Ms Vernita Charlotte Lillian BLOOM (b.1912-Chisago City,MN;d.1944)

Was this their 50th wedding anniversary in 1948?

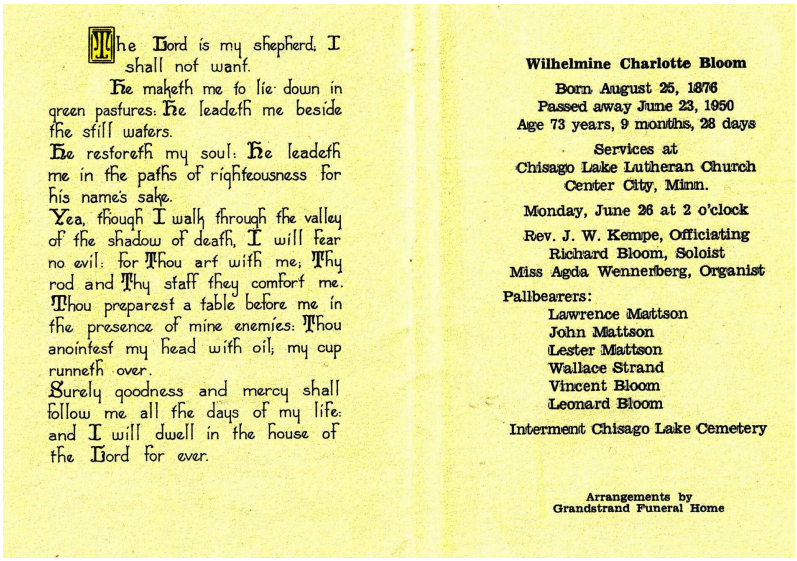
Left to right, Ellis, Chester, Mother Minnie and Father Edward, Gilbert and Loren with Eunice and Vernita sitting on the ground.

7-19-1873 – Edward Ansgarius Bloom – 7-10-1959

Edward was born on July 19, 1873, in Franconia township. He was baptized on August 3, 1873. He grew up on his father's farm and attended the public schools. After attaining his majority, he purchased his father's farm located in sections 7 and 12, and a small tract in section 1 of Franconia township. Soon afterward he began farming for himself. In the eight years that he owned the property, he was more than successful and placed valuable improvements on the home farm. He owned 124 acres of land, 45 of which was under cultivation. He devoted his efforts to the development of his estate and was the possessor of a fine tract of land and a comfortable home. The rest was pasture and timber. His father, Gustaf Bloom, lived on the farm 47 years. Edward died in Chisago County on July 10, 1959. Edward was one of the popular young men of his community and always interested in the social and financial interests of his community. He was a leader in public affair, attending the different conventions as a delegate of the Republican Party of which he was a member. *(From: Compendium of History and Biography of Central and Northern Minnesota: George A. Ogle & Co. Chicago. 1904. pp. 499.)*

Edward and Minnie operated the Russel Beach Resort on South Lindstrom lake during the depression years. They had six children: Gilbert, Ellis, Chester, Loren, Eunice and Vernita.

Wilhelmina Charlotte Mattson and Edward were married in 1898. She was born in Lent Township, Chisago County, Minnesota, to John Mattson and his wife, Johanna Carolina Lena Nelson. and was baptized on September 5, 1876. John Mattson was an old settler of that township where he lived 27 years and was a native of Sweden. Wilhelmina died June 23, 1950 following a car accident. Richard Bloom was the soloist, and pallbearers were Lawrence Mattson, John Mattson, Lester Mattson, Wallace Strand, Vincent Bloom and Leonard Bloom from Warroad, Mn. The 23rd Psalm was printed in the worship folder and she was buried in Chisago Lake Cemetery.



The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Wilhelmine Charlotte Bloom
Born August 25, 1876
Passed away June 23, 1950
Age 73 years, 9 months, 28 days

Services at
Chisago Lake Lutheran Church
Center City, Minn.

Monday, June 26 at 2 o'clock

Rev. J. W. Kempe, Officiating
Richard Bloom, Soloist
Miss Agda Wennerberg, Organist

Pallbearers:
Lawrence Mattson
John Mattson
Lester Mattson
Wallace Strand
Vincent Bloom
Leonard Bloom

Interment Chisago Lake Cemetery

Arrangements by
Grandstrand Funeral Home

Gilbert Reynolds Bloom was born on December 8, 1898 in Lent township. He was baptized on January 4, 1899, confirmed on April 20, 1913 and died on January 15, 1966. He was married to Margaret Boesel. They had one son, Richard, born March 10, 1927. Gilbert worked as a printer of calendars for Brown and Bigelow and had a fine eye for colors. During WWII, he served as an Air Raid warden in his neighborhood and served as deacon and usher at Redeemer Lutheran for many years.

Son Richard (Dick), Margaret and Gilbert Bloom

Margaret helped organize the St. Paul Opera company and sang mezzo soprano in many operas. She also worked and retired from the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association where she was a telephone operator and clerk in accounting.

Richard married **Lillian Fehring** and they had two children: **Kathleen** and **William**. Richard trained as a combat medic in WWII and his group replaced the 82nd Airborne in Germany in 1946. Back in St. Paul, he worked in a bank, later in sales of mechanical and power equipment. He retired from Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association where he worked in the office. He served for over 50 years at Hope Lutheran in various capacities. Lillian worked at Western Union as a telephone operator during WWII and later in various clerical positions at the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing company. She retired after 30 years.

Gilbert's son Richard

Margaret and Ruth Boesel
Dick Bloom's mother and Aunt Ruth

Ellis Ansgarius Bloom was born on January 15, 1901, in Franconia Township was baptized February 11, 1901 and confirmed on May 23, 1915. He married **Elvera Eleanor** (Vera) **Lydeen** on March 12, 1927 who was born on February 15, 1906.

They had three children: Carol, Susanne and Sharon.

Ellis and Vera. Ellis died October 9, 1972

For the most part, Ellis was raised at Russell Beach, the resort his parents owned. Because of the location he became a good swimmer spending time around the pier and helping guests who vacationed there. He later attended college to learn office administration. From 1940 to 1942, Ellis delivered fresh fruit and vegetables

Daughters of Ellis and Vera:
Left to Right: Sharon Louise, Carol Joanne and Susanne Harriet

every day to grocery stores in the area. He got the produce from the Farmers Market in St. Paul. Then in 1944 the family moved to Shafer, Minnesota and he then worked for his Uncle George Mattson who owned and operated Mattson Construction in Shafer. At one point he bought his own grader and was hired out for his operating expertise. In 1948, Ellis and Vera moved to Forest Lake, Minnesota and continued his work in road construction Vera worked at the Forest Lake hospital as a nurses aid until retirement.

Carol Joanne was born on April 12, 1933, baptized on June 12, 1933, and confirmed on May 25, 1947. She married **Ted Preisler** who was born in November 1932. They had three children: **Jody**, born 1955, **Scott**, born 1958 and **Wendy**, born 1959.

Jody married Donald Kline, born 1954 and had two children: Shawn, born 1976, and Jillian, born 1980. After their divorce, Jody married Richard Vinar on January 8, 1999, who was born on September 30, 1956.

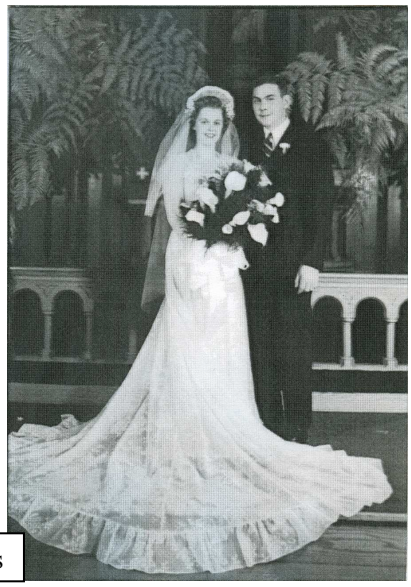
Shawn was married on June 24, 2000, to **Annie Rangitsch**. When they married, they took the maiden name of Shawn's mother, Jody Preisler, so they are known as Shawn and Annie Preisler.

Susanne (Suzanne) Harriet was born February 14, 1940, and was baptized on June 10, 1940. She married **Francis Schlaeger**, born 1940. They had three children: **Brent**, born 1964, **Deanne** born 1965 and **Heidi**, born 1968. Heidi married **Peter Flom** in 1994 and then in October 2007, Peter was killed in a terrible car accident.

Sharon Louise was born August 12, 1942 and was baptized on October 4, 1942. She married **Gerald Kari** and had five children: **Lisa**, born 1962, **Leslie**, born 1964, **Matthew**, born 1965, **Mark**, born 1966 and **Paul**, born 1968. After their divorce in 1974, Sharon married **Ron Peterson** who was born in 1939.

Chester Bloom 1924

Chester Augustine Bloom was born to Edward and Wilhelmina on February 1, 1903 was baptized February 26, 1903 and confirmed on May 23, 1915. He died on August 21, 1989. While a boy, Chester helped his family run the Mercantile store in Maple Island, Minnesota and took care of his parents' summer resort at Russell Beach near Lindstrom. Chester and his brothers maintained the grounds at the resort and supervised swimming and games for the guests at Russell Beach.



Chester and Doris

After high school, Chester went on to attend Minnesota Business College, where he received his degree in Bookkeeping. After college, he worked for Shafer Contracting as their bookkeeper until 1949.

Chester married **Doris Hanson**, a Shafer, Minnesota resident, on June 10, 1944 at Chisago Lakes Lutheran Church in Center City. Chester and Doris bought a home in the town of Shafer and lived there until the summer of 1952. Their first child, a son named **Steven**, was born to them on February 26, 1947.

In June of 1950, Chester and his mother, Minnie, were in a severe car accident on the way home from a doctor's appointment in St. Paul, Minnesota. Minnie died a few days later after never regaining consciousness. Chester was in a coma for several days, regaining consciousness on the day of his mother's funeral. He remained in the hospital for several months, recovering from a badly broken leg.

Chester and Doris moved to Red Wing, Minnesota in the spring of 1952. Chester took a job there with the Minneapolis Star and Tribune. In April of 1953, their first daughter, **Jennifer** was born. Fifteen months later they had another daughter, **Nancy**. Chester and his family lived in Red Wing until 1959, when he purchased a store in Stillwater. Two years later they relocated the store to Kiester, Minnesota where he operated the "V-Store" business for seven more years. While living in Kiester, Chester was asked to do the local news for the Blue Earth radio station KBEW. He had a very distinguished and pleasant voice to listen to and became well known in the area as "Chet Bloom, with the Kiester area news". Kiester was a very

Doris and Chester Bloom

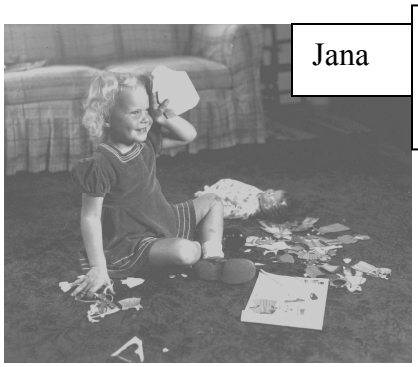
safe, small town to raise a family, but Chester, being close to retirement age, and Doris, still wanting to continue her teaching career in a larger school district, prompted the move to Forest Lake in 1969. This move also brought Chester's family within a closer distance to their relatives.

After retiring and moving to Forest Lake, Chester enjoyed his family, fishing, gardening, and the Minnesota Twins. In October of 1975, Nancy married **Stephen Hursh** of Forest Lake. Two years later in August, Jennifer married **Randolph Peterson** of Coon Lake. To this day, Steven Bloom remains single. Being a Grandfather to Nancy's three children, **Jeremy** (wife Allison), **Emily** (husband **Andrew Fish**), and **Stephanie** (married to **Mathew Davids**) was a highlight of his later years. Chester never had the privilege of knowing his other two grandchildren - Jennifer's children, **Hayley** and **Carter**, but we all know how special they would have been. In fact, many relatives think that Carter resembles Chester.

Chester was a very kind and peaceful man who touched many lives and he lives on in the hearts and memories of his family.

Loren Albert Bloom was born on October 29, 1907, baptized December 5, 1907, and confirmed on June 4, 1922. He moved to St. Louis, Missouri on January 28, 1938. He married **Madge Tracey** and had one daughter – **Jana** and resided in Tracys Landing, Maryland.

At right: Ed Bloom, Jana, Madge & Loren at home in Tracys Landing.



Jana

Jana married **Bill O'Neal** and later divorced. They had two children: **Katy** and **Molly**.

Madge died in May, 1970 and Loren later married **Mildred Nast** who already had two children, **Lois** and **Paul**. In 1930, Loren was employed with the federal government in the Army Corps of Engineers. He was a topographic draftsman in aerial mapping of the Missouri River Basin, later in Illinois and the Mississippi rivers. including locks and dams. In 1941, he was designing aeronautical charting which led to transoceanic and continental flight charts to scale. In 1944, he relocated to Washington D.C. He flew many missions throughout the world, sitting in the nose cone of cockpits mapping out landing fields for the US Army Air Corps during WW II. After 41 years he retired as a Branch Chief located in the Pentagon.

Loren and Mildred Nast Bloom

Eunice Wilhelmina Caroline Bloom was born on March 22, 1910 in Chicago City. She was baptized on May 5, 1910 and confirmed on May 3, 1925. She moved to Los Angeles, California on October 15, 1943. Eunice married **Al Lilija**. There children are:

Eunice

Harold and **Paul**. Paul married **Lavon Allmon** and had one daughter - **Deanna**.

At left: A 1925 picture of Eunice. This looks like her May 3, 1925 confirmation picture. Notice the long sleeve white gloves.

Vernita Charlotte Lillian Bloom.

Vernita (above right) was born on August 23, 1912, in Chisago City, Minnesota, was baptized on September 29, 1912 and died October 2, 1944. As a teenager, she was in a bad car accident and suffered such terrible head injures that she had to be placed in an institution where she died in 1944. She was 32. Equally tragic is the fact that Vernita's mother (Edward's wife) also died in a car accident six years later on June 23, 1950. Also, Vernita's older brother, Chester, was in this accident and was in a coma for several days, regaining consciousness on the day of his mother's funeral. These three situations must have been very hard on Edward's family.

Eunice and Albert Al Lilija with son Paul - 1952

Left to right: Gilbert & Margaret, Ellis & Vera, Chester & Doris, Loren & Madge, Oct 29, 1961

Susanne. Elis, Carol, Vera, and baby Sharon

At right: Madge, Jana, Loren October 17, 1943

Edward Bloom on the left – and then, on the right, as he appeared at the 1937 Bloom reunion.
He worked at the Farmer's Store in Lindstrom. See "Then" and "Now" pictures on subsequent pages.

Edward Bloom and wife Minnie Mattson
At their home in Russell Beach. See next pages.

Wrap around porch and dinning room

Winter time at Russel Beach

RATES

Per Day .	$3.00 and $ 3.50
Per Week, Single . .	16.00
Per Week, Double . .	14.00
Children under 6 years	½ rate
Children under 12 years	10.00
Meals	.75
Except Sunday Dinner	1.00
Chicken Dinner Every Sunday	
Boats, Per Day . .	1.50
Boats, Per Week . .	3.00

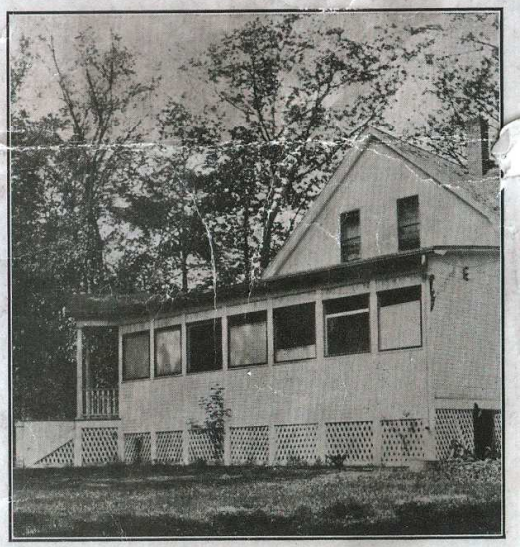
Our tables are supplied with fresh vegetables, eggs, milk and cream from an adjoining farm, and are served with our home cooked meals. You will enjoy dining at Russell Beach.

Make reservations by telephone or mail. We will cheerfully supply you with further information upon request.

RUSSELL BEACH
EDW. A. BLOOM, Prop.
CHISAGO CITY, MINN.

RUSSELL BEACH
ON CHISAGO LAKES
CHISAGO CITY, MINN.

Member of Ten Thousand Lakes Association



DINING PORCH AT RUSSELL BEACH

As seen today, the former Edward Russel Beach resort at 11875 Oak Street, Chisago City, Minnesota. Operated in the 1930s.
It had a wrap around porch (see picture top left) where the guests ate and visited. It had eleven cabins (see left), boats, tennis, croquet, horseshoes, and a nice beach.

There is a conundrum concerning when Russel Beach was first used as a resort under Edward's management. On the one hand, Gustaf Blom's second wife Elin lived there until she died in 1915. On the other hand. Suzanne Harriet Bloom Schlaeger - born in 1940, remembers being there when it was a resort. One thing we know for sure – the 1930 Bloom reunion was held there and it was already known as the "Russel Beach Resort."

Farmers
STORE

Ed. Bloom
far right

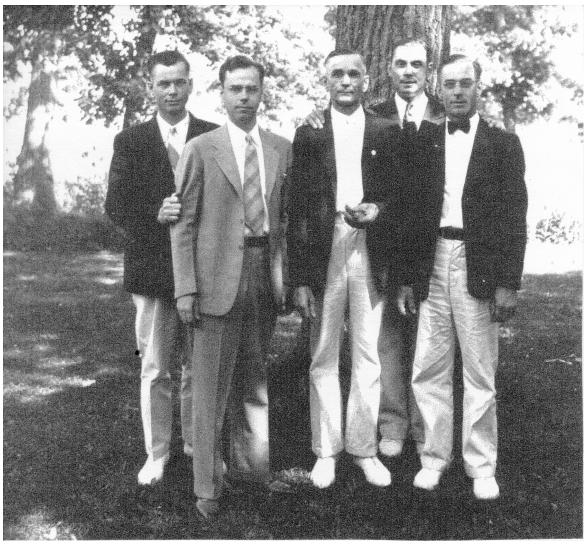
Lindstrom

Inside
Farmers
Store

Ed - far
left

Below is the same store as it looks today. Now it is and antique store.

It is located on highway 8 as it goes through Lindstrom. Edward worked there when it was a Farmer Store. Richard Bloom (from the family of Carl) remembers him clerking there.



Above: Gilbert, Loren, Edward, Chester, Ellis

Above right to left:
Loren and Madge, Ellis and Vera,
Gilbert and Margaret

Standing:
Loren, Chester, Ellis, Gilbert

Sitting:
Edward, Eunice, Minnie

Below is the Charlie Bloom farm. Barn built by Edward Bloom on the old Gustaf Bloom farm.
And later moved across the road to Charlie's place. See narrative below.

Above is Charlie Bloom's barn (originally Edward's barn). This barn is located at the intersection of Pleasant Vally Road and Quinlan Road – southeast corner (note: it will seem to many that it is on the **southwest** corner – but since Pleasant Vally Road does not run true north and south it only seems like southwest – Milan Bloom). This barn was first owned by Edward Bloom and, when Edward owned it, it was located near Bloom's Lake on the opposite side of Pleasant Valley Road from where it stands in these pictures. In the old days, Edward was farming what had been his father Gustaf's farm – He farmed it over a period of eight years from the late 1800's and early 1900's. The barn was eventually moved across Pleasant Vally Road and it became Charlie Bloom's barn. The location pictured here is the former Charlie Bloom farm. Richard Bloom, Charlie's grandson, believes the barn was enlarged after it was move.

1. Mr. Joseph BLOOM (b.1878-Center City,Township 33,S7,L7M;d.1944-Warroad,Minn)

sp: Ms Della Florence MATTSON (b.1880-Chisago Lake Twp,C;m.1904;d.1945-Warroad,Minnesota)

- 2, Ms LaVerna Rosalie BLOOM (b.1905-Warroad,MN;d.1988-Fordville,ND)
  - sp: Mr. Olaf BRENHAUG (b.1903-Roseau,MN;m.1928;b.1964-Moe Rose Cemetery)
    - 3, Ms Florence Jeannine BRENHAUG (b.1929;d.1995)
      - sp: Mr. Raymond JOHNSON (b.1921;m.1946;d.1974)
        - 4, Mr. Richard Carl JOHNSON (b.1946)
          - sp: Ms Lois NELSON (b.1948)
            - 5, Mr. David Dean JOHNSON (b.1973)
              - sp: Ms Christine Beth DOYLE (b.1972)
                - 6. Mr. Conner Roger JOHNSON (b.1996)
                - 6. Mr. Cole JOHNSON (b.1998)
        - 4, Mr. Bruce Allen JOHNSON (b.1953)
          - sp: Ms Perri Ann MARTINSON (b.1959;m.1983(Div))
        - 4, Ms Lu Ann Ranae JOHNSON (b.1961)
          - sp: Mr. Perry MANECKE (b.1960;m.1981)
            - 5, Mr. Andrew Reid MANECKE (b.1983)
              - sp: Ms Miranda JUNEAU (m.2005)
                - 6. Ms Malachi Nathon MANECKE (b.2008)
            - 5, Ms Charstie Annette MANECKE (b.1986)
              - sp: Mr. Alexander Wyatt LANFORD (m.2007)
            - 5. Ms Faith Daneille MANECKE (b.1990){A}
      - sp: Mr. Robert CLARK (b.1927;m.1979)
    - 3, Ms Barbara Mae BRENHAUG (b.1931)
      - sp: Mr. Dennis D. HANSON (b.1926-Mercy Hospital,TRF,Minnesota;m.1950(Div);d.2008-)
        - 4, Mr. David Daune HANSON (b.1951)
          - sp: Ms Terry Lynn NELSON (m.1976(Div))
            - 5. Mr. Aaron David HANSON (b.1977)
            - 5. Mr. Andrew Carl HANSON (b.1979)
          - sp: Ms Georgianne DESROCHER (m.1986(Div))
        - 4, Ms Kathryn Denise HANSON (b.1958)
          - sp: Mr. B Dan BACON (m.1976(Div))
            - 5. Mr. Christopher Allen BACON (b.1977)
          - sp: Mr. Scott David RUSTAD (b.1959;m.1986)
            - 5. Ms Samantha Ann RUSTAD (b.1988)
      - sp: Mr. Donald THOMPSON (b.1935;m.1966;d.1995-Warroad)
    - 3, Mr. Wesley John BRENHAUG (b.1934)
      - sp: Ms Muriel MELBY (b.1936;m.1961)
        - 4, Ms Mary Ellen BRENHAUG (b.1962)
          - sp: Mr. Daniel Sheffy REASOR (b.1962;m.1986)
            - 5. Mr. Alexander Jennings REASOR (b.1991-Fridley,MN)
            - 5. Mr. Jarred REASOR (b.1995-Fridley,MN)
            - 5. Ms Amanda REASOR (b.1998-Fridley,MN)
        - 4, Mr. Steven John BRENHAUG (b.1964)
          - sp: Ms Sara Lynn CALVIN (b.1967;m.1988)
            - 5. Ms Shelly Jo BRENHAUG (b.1993-Sant Cloud,MN)
            - 5. Ms Shanna BRENHAUG (b.1997-Long Prairie,MN)
        - 4, Mr. Paul David BRENHAUG (b.1969)
          - sp: Ms Jonna Sue RESCH (b.1970;m.1992)

- 5. Mr. Nolan BRENHAUG (b.1997-St. Cloud,MN)
- 5. Mr. Jake Wesley BRENHAUG (b.2000-St. Cloud,Minnesota)
- 5. Mr. Cody David BRENHAUG (b.2001)

3, Mr. Roger Bloom BRENHAUG (b.1935)
- sp: Ms Diane BARCLAY (b.1940;m.1959)
- 4. Mr. Dale Wesley BRENHAUG (b.1961;d.1961)
- 4, Ms Dianna Lynn BRENHAUG (b.1962)
  - sp: Mr. Chet FAUST (m.1982(Div))
  - sp: Mr. Jerome JENNEKE (b.1954;m.1985)
    - 5, Mr. Dale Jeffrey JENNEKE (b.1979)
      - sp: Ms Melissa DIETEL (b.1979)
        - 6. Mr. Matthew Dale Dietel JEFFREY (b.1997)
        - 6. Mr. Mitch JENNEKE (b.2002)
    - 5, Ms Cassandra Dea JENNEKE (b.1985)
      - sp: Mr. Darren CARRIGAN (m.2005)
        - 6. Ms Aeianna Dea CARRIGAN (b.2008)
    - 5. Mr. Eric Jerome JENNEKE (b.1986)
    - 5. Ms Amy Lynn JENNEKE (b.1990)
- 4, Mr. Jeffrey Olaf BRENHAUG (b.1964)
  - sp: Ms Holly L PLATH (b.1970;m.1988)
    - 5. Mr. Joshua Jeffrey BRENHAUG (b.1989)
    - 5. Ms Alicia Maria BRENHAUG (b.1992)

3, Ms Lucille Eldri BRENHAUG (b.1939-Salo,MN)
- sp: Mr. Roger Berdeen OLSON (b.1938;m.1955(Div))
- 4, Ms Lynn Ann OLSON (b.1956)
  - sp: Ms Craig GRASSEL (b.1955;m.1977)
    - 5, Ms Lisa Marie GRASSEL (b.1975)
      - sp: Mr. Kris JACOBSON (b.1973;m.1997)
        - 6. Ms Kai Lynn JACOBSON (b.2002)
    - 5, Mr. Carl Douglas GRASSEL (b.1979)
      - sp: Ms Katy Ann BRADY (b.1979;m.2005)
    - 5. Mr. Jacob GRASSEL (b.1981)
- 4, Ms Cynthia Rae OLSON (b.1957)
  - sp: Mr. Kevin Richard LINSTAD (b.1957;m.1975(Div))
    - 5, Mr. Christon John LINSTAD (b.1976)
      - sp: Ms Elizebeth HENSEN (b.1975;m.2004)
        - 6. Ms Avery Hensen KELLY (b.2000){A}
        - 6. Mr. Seth Christon LINSTAD (b.2006)
    - 5, Ms Patricia Ann LINSTAD (b.1978)
      - sp: Mr. Scott ODE (b.1979)
        - 6. Mr. Jacob Scott ODE (b.2001)
        - 6. Mr. Ethen Jade ODE (b.2005)
  - sp: Mr. Dan SCHMIT (b.1957;m.2000)
- 4, Ms Julie Kay OLSON (b.1958)
  - sp: Mr. Keith GEMMILL (b.1956;m.1974)
    - 5, Mr. Michael Paul GEMMILL (b.1975)
      - sp: Ms Jennifer Lynn BABB (b.1972;m.2005)
        - 6. Ms Chelsea Babb GEMMILL (b.1995)
        - 6. Mr. Layne Michael GEMMILL (b.2003)
        - 6. Mr. Colton LeRoy GEMMILL (b.2006)
    - 5. Mr. Thomas Keith GEMMILL (b.1979)

sp: Ms Shannon Rae BEHN (b.1978;m.2004)
6. Ms Kindra RaNaa GEMMILL (b.2004)
6. Ms Kelsey Nicole GEMMILL (b.2005)
5. Mr. Andrew Colin GEMMILL (b.1989)
4. Mr. Tracy Berdeen OLSON (b.1960)
sp: Ms Kim Annette KELLEY (b.1964;m.1985)
5. Ms Jacy Jane OLSON (b.1992)
5. Ms Jade Kelley OLSON (b.1997)
sp: Mr. Lawrence Adrain WARD (b.1934;m.1963)
4. Mr. Randy Scott WARD (b.1963)
sp: Ms Amber Joy SCORE (b.1969;m.1987(Div);d.1997-Warroad,MN)
5. Ms Erica Marie WARD (b.1988)
5. Mr. Nicholas Lawrence WARD (b.1990)
sp: Ms Lynn BAKKE (b.1967)
4. Ms Marlys Elaine WARD (b.1964)
sp: Mr. Allison A. KEELER (b.1964;m.1982(Div))
sp: Mr. Kim STIEFEL (b.1956)
5. Mr. Cody Jay STIEFEL (b.1995)
sp: Mr. Arthur GRAND
2. Mr. Roy Edwin BLOOM (b.1906-Moranville,Roseau,MN;d.1995-Forest City,Winnebago,IA)
sp: Ms Mildred Juliette BRANDEN (b.1912-Ramsey,St Paul MN;m.1935;d.1983-Proctor,SL,MN)
3. Ms Alice Elaine BLOOM (b.1937)
sp: Mr. Marvin Loren JONES (b.1932-Forest City,W,IA;m.1958;d.2002-Mason City,IA)
4. Ms Alene Kay JONES (b.1959-Duluth,St Lewis,MN)
sp: Mr. Larry MEYERING (b.1956;m.1977)
5. Mr. Christopher Alan MEYERING (b.1978-Iowa City,Johnson,IA)
sp: Ms Erin PAULIS (b.1979;m.1998)
6. Ms Jessica Paige MEYERING (b.2000-Hanover,PA)
6. Ms Cassidy Rose MEYERING (b.2001-Hanover,Penn)
6. Ms Chloe Loren MEYERING (b.2003)
6. Ms Jenna Faith MEYERING (b.2005-Pennsylvania)
5. Ms Shannon Marie MEYERING (b.1979-Mason City,Cerro Gordo,IA)
sp: Mr. Harold KEITHLEY (b.1978;m.1999)
6. Ms Shiloh Nicole KEITHLEY (b.1999-Aberdeen,Maryland)
5. Mr. Eric Scott MEYERING (b.1984-Albert Lea,Freeborn,MN)
5. Mr. Adam Lee MEYERING (b.1986-Baltimore,Maryland)
4. Mr. David Loren JONES (b.1961-Madison,WI)
sp: Ms Elvira TUMAMAK (b.1961-Philippines;m.1985)
5. Ms Arlene May JONES (b.1991-Mason City,Cerro Gordo,IA)
5. Mr. Ryan Loren JONES (b.1994-Mason City,IA)
5. Ms Leah Marie JONES (b.1997-Mason City,IA)
4. Ms Julie Ann JONES (b.1964-Forest City,Winnebago,IA)
sp: Mr. Robert LANGERUD (b.1960-Forest City,Winnebago,IA;m.1987)
5. Ms Samantha Ann LANGERUD (b.1989-Mason City,Cerro Gordo,IA)
sp: Mr. Steve BOUCHER (m.2010)
5. Mr. Daniel Robert LANGERUD (b.1990-Mason City,Cerro Gordo,IA)
5. Mr. Benjamin Lee LANGERUD (b.1993-Mason City,Cerro Gordo,IA)
4. Mr. James Allen JONES (b.1966-Forest City,Winnebago,IA)
sp: Ms Rosan MONTES (b.1983-Phillippine Islands;m.2007)
5. Ms Jhasmine Montes JONES (b.2009-Cedar Rapids,Iowa)
5. Ms Lheanna Montez JONES (b.2011-Iowa)

- 4, Mr. Jerald Allen JONES (b.1966-Forest City,Winnebago,IA)
  - sp: Ms Marilyn MADARANG (b.1982-Phillippine Islands;m.2007)
- 3, Mr. Milan Edward BLOOM (b.1941-Warroad,Minnesota)
  - sp: Ms Shelly Maria GORHAM (b.1943-Duluth,Minnesota;m.1964;d.1991-Colorado Springs)
    - 4, Mr. Mark David BLOOM (b.1967-Colorado Springs,El Paso,CO)
      - sp: Ms Kristen Michelle SCHAFFNER (b.1970;m.1992(Div))
        - 5. Mr. Andrew James BLOOM (b.1997-Denver,Co)
        - 5. Mr. Joshua Michael BLOOM (b.1999-Denver,Co)
        - 5. Mr. Samuel Paul BLOOM (b.2001-Littleton,CO)
    - 4. Ms Sandra Ann BLOOM (b.1969-Colorado Springs,El Paso,CO)
- 3, Mr. Wallace Everette BLOOM (b.1944-Warroad,Roseau,MN)
  - sp: Ms Sara Ann HAAS (b.1946-New Rockford,Eddy,ND;m.1968)
    - 4, Mr. Kevin Patrick BLOOM (b.1970-San Antonio,Bexar Texas)
      - sp: Ms Michelle Ann DRISCOLL (b.1969-Grand Forks,North Dakota;m.1995)
        - 5. Mr. Jack Matthew BLOOM (b.1998-Bismarck,ND)
        - 5. Ms Macyn Paige BLOOM (b.2001-Grand Forks,ND)
        - 5. Breck Patrick BLOOM (b.2005-Altru Hospital,Grand Forks,North Dakota)
    - 4, Mr. Derek Brandon BLOOM (b.1973-Grand Forks,ND)
      - sp: Ms Erin Lynn JOHNSON (m.1997)
        - 5. Mr. Brendan Thomas BLOOM (b.2002-St. Louis Park,MN)
        - 5. Mr. Taylor Zachary BLOOM (b.2004)
    - 4, Mr. Steven Matthew BLOOM (b.1977-Grand Forks,ND)
      - sp: Ms Rosaleen DUGGAN (b.1979-San Antonio,Texas;m.2011)
- 2, Ms Florence Clara Adeline BLOOM (b.1908-Center City,T3,S7,L7M;d.1995-34-23 203rd street,B,N)
  - sp: Mr. Helge Karl HOLGERSON (b.1911-Alboke,Oland,S;m.1938;d.2000-Bay Side,NY)
    - 3, Ms Marilyn Della HOLGERSON (b.1939-Warroad,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Thord Richard JOHNSON (b.1935-Orkelljunga,Sweden;m.1959)
        - 4, Mr. David Richard JOHNSON (b.1963-White Plans Hospital,White Plans,NY)
          - sp: Ms Laura FAJVAN (b.1963;m.1995)
            - 5. Ms Stephanie Ann JOHNSON (b.1995)
            - 5. Mr. David Richard JOHNSON Jr (b.1996)
            - 5. Ms Marianne Elesa JOHNSON (b.1999)
        - 4, Mr. Paul Karl JOHNSON (b.1966-Pascack Valley Hospital,Westwood,NJ)
          - sp: Ms Lissa Ann ZALESKI (b.1966;m.1992)
            - 5. Mr. Jake Paul JOHNSON (b.1995)
            - 5. Ms Sophia Florence JOHNSON (b.1999)
        - 4, Ms Judith Kristine JOHNSON (b.1974-Pascack Valley Hospital,Westwood,NJ)
          - sp: Mr. Scott REES (b.1971;m.2004)
            - 5. Mr. Ryan Johnson REES (b.2006)
    - 3, Ms Nancy Jean HOLGERSON (b.1947-Lenox Hill Hospital,NYC)
      - sp: Mr. Dewey John HILLMAN (b.1940-Washington,DC;m.1972(Div);d.2005-Bayside,NY)
        - 4, Ms Virginia Florence HILLMAN (b.1975)
          - sp: Mr. Spencer Elliott BALDWIN (b.1975-Pt. Pleasant,New Jersey;m.2009)
            - 5. Mr. Daniel Elliott BALDWIN (b.2010)
        - 4, Mr. Kenneth John HILLMAN (b.1978)
          - sp: Ms Jennifier Lyn FEMMINELLA (b.1978;m.2005)
            - 5. Ms Kate Ella HILLMAN (b.2009-Nassau Counsty,New York)
            - 5. Mr. Drew Erik HILLMAN (b.2011)
- 2, Mr. Leonard Walter BLOOM (b.1911-Warroad,MN;d.1995-Preston,MN)
  - sp: Ms Ila HAHN (b.1911-Minnesota;d.1999-Preston,Mn)
    - 3. Mr. Richard Joseph BLOOM (b.1943-Warroad,MN)

sp: Ms Jane FOX (b.1949;m.1978)
4, Mr. Michael Hahn BLOOM (b.1979)
sp: Ms Katy
5. Mr. Hahn Robert BLOOM (b.2009)
4, Mr. David BLOOM (b.1981)
sp: Ms Kathie KRAMER (m.2010)
4. Ms Catherine BLOOM (b.1984)

2, Ms May Axelina Jeanette BLOOM (b.1915-Warroad,Roseau,MN;d.2001-Portland,OR)
sp: Mr. Marvin Wallace Verdeman KLING (b.1905-Marine-On-St. Crox;m.1941)
3, Ms Miriam KLING (b.1953-Warroad,Roseau,MN)
sp: Mr. Joseph NACOSTE Sr
4. Mr. Christopher KLING (b.1993-Portland,OR)
3, Mr. John Marvin KLING (b.1954-Warroad,Roseau,MN)
sp: Ms Deborah Patrice EFFENBERGER
4, Mr. Dan KLING
sp: Ms Molly Ann MULL (m.2005)
5. Mr. Silas Daniel KLING (b.2008)
4, Ms Lindsay Erin KLING
sp: Mr. Ryan LEBRETON (m.2000)
5. Ms Bailey Shea LEBRETON (b.2001-St. Vincents Hospital,Portland,OR)
5. Ms Zoa May LEBRETON (b.2006)

2, Mr. Frank Gustav BLOOM (b.1920-Warroad,Roseau,MN;d.2003-Portland,OR)
sp: Ms Ruth E. KLING (b.1914-Roosevelt,MN;m.1952;d.1999-Portland,OR)
3, The Reverend Neil Donavan BLOOM (b.1954-Portland,OR)
sp: Ms Brenda OSTER (b.1959-Bismark,ND;m.1983)
4. Mr. Nathan BLOOM (b.1987-){APusan,Korea)
4. Ms Alyssa BLOOM (b.1993-){ADaequ City,Korea)
3, Ms Eileen Kay BLOOM (b.1957-Portland,OR)
sp: Mr. Michael John GROSS (b.1957-Coos Bay,OR;m.1979)
4. Ms Karen Eileen GROSS (b.1983-Portland,OR and husband Mr. Michael Hohimer)
4. Mr. Mark David GROSS (b.1983)

Front row:
Grandpa Joe Bloom with Wesley and Roger.
Grandma Della with Florence and Barbara.

Back row:

LaVerna, Frank, Mildred and Roy holding Alice.

Fall 1938

3-1-1878 Joseph Bloom 7-14-1944

Assembled by grandson Milan Bloom

Joseph Bloom Della Mattson

Joseph Bloom was born on the Gustaf Blom farm southeast of Center City, Minnesota. Since his mother died within hours of his birth, he was either raised on the farm by his twelve-year old sister, Anna, or off the farm by an aunt. Baby Joseph was born with a double hair lip, a cleft palate and an extra hole on the top of his nose. These defects meant that he couldn't suck – so I really doubt that his older sister was up to the task of taking care of him -- but who did?

On Monday, June 3, 1901, twenty-three year old Joseph Bloom arrived in Warroad, Minnesota. Prior to this, it's believed that he worked in the "Pineries" north of Stillwater. Some of these white pines stood 100 feet tall and five feet in diameter. Well anyway, the starting date for his Warroad area homestead was November 12, 1902 and this 160-acre claim was two miles south of Warroad along what today is County Road 5. Then on October 28, 1903 Joe (as he was called) bought another 160 acres from Oscear {sic} E. Dahlstrom . He paid $1,400 for this farm and where he got that kind of money is a mystery. .This acreage was about 3 miles southwest of his main homestead and was located in Cedarbend township. Joe sold this farm to his brother Frank in 1906 for $1,500.

Now it needs to be noted that Joe had been strongly encouraged to come to Warroad by Minnesota's Secretary of State, Albert Berg. Joe and Albert were both from Center City, Minnesota, and two of Joe's brothers married Albert's half sisters. Albert's first wife was Joe and David Bloom's favorite cousin Anna Christine Peterson (Pehrsson). Albert and Anna divorced in 1897 and it was the first divorce in the Bloom and Collin family. Anna was the daughter of Gustaf Bloom's sister Johanna.

Joseph met his future wife, **Della Mattson**, in 1903 at their church in Center City. They had attended the church for several years but didn't know each other until they were formally introduced. After being acquainted for about one year, they were married April 3, 1904. Della was working at this time as a domestic for Joseph's sister, Emma Bloom Strand, whose home was southeast of Center City in the town of Marine. Given the expense and inconvenience of travel in those days, I wouldn't think that he would have left Warroad to court Della very often. I don't know how this romance flourished. The only rail transportation at that time was to take the Canadian Pacific and go first to Winnipeg, then east and finally south to St. Paul for a distance of about 600 miles. Travel by rail from Winnipeg to St. Paul was actually available by 1878, but the availability of rail to Winnipeg from Warroad wasn't even scheduled until August 1899. Joseph Lambert's Argyle and Warroad Stage was opened May 17, 1899. The stage made three trips per week, took a day and a half over spine jarring, rough corduroy road and cost five dollars

including board and one night's lodging. Argyle is 100 miles southwest of Warroad by modern highway and was located on the train route between Winnipeg and Crookston.

Bloom School 1918 The boy in the dunce hat is Roy Bloom. The girl in front of Roy's left arm is LaVerna (mother of Barbara Brenhaug Thompson) and I believe that the girl on the end of the very front row (and looking at the ground) is Roy's sister Florence. The teacher was Anna Longren.

Joseph and Della had six children: **LaVerna** (Mrs. Olaf Brenhaug), Roseau; **Roy**, Warroad; **Florence** (Mrs. Helge Holgerson), New York; **Leonard**, Preston, Minnesota; **May** (Mrs. Marvin Kling), Portland Oregon and **Frank**, Portland, Oregon.

On November 15, 1904, George Bader was given clear title to his 100-acre farm. This farm was in the woods one-fourth mile west of the western edge of Joseph's farm. The six-acre field hidden in the woods figured into Joe and Roy's 1937 potato growing success. In November of 1906 Joe sold his Cedarbend property to his brother, Frank, from Lindstrom. He got $1500 for that farm (equal to $29,472 in 2003); this established his brother's unintended interest in rural Warroad that lasted thirty years.

Joe and Della's family
Back row left to right:
Roy, LaVerna, Joe

Front row left to right:
Della, Leonard and favorite cousin Anna Pehrsson.

Florence in front sitting in chair.
(Florence and the chair are barely visible)

On December 2, 1907, President Theodore Roosevelt signed Joe's "Homestead Patent" which gave Joe clear title to his homestead. On February 20, 1908, Joe went to the Roseau, County courthouse to have his deed registered. In the spring or early summer of 1907 Joseph, Della and their two kids, Roy and LaVerna, left Warroad because making a living there had gotten so hard. They went first to Joseph's home farm southeast of Center City where his third child, Florence, was born on July 17, 1908. They then went to Johnstown Township, Wisconsin. Although our family tradition has always placed then in Cumberland, Wisconsin - which was several miles to the east in an adjacent county - they actually lived and worked on a rented farm in Johnstown Township, Polk County, Wisconsin. Furthermore I believe they might have been located in section 6 of Johnstown Township (most northwesterly section in the Township - near their neighbors the Frank Engelbret's but than again they may have been in the southeastern part of the township in section 22 and 23. That would place them near the RFD route and the R. B. Phillips family. I think the reason there is confusion as to where they acturally were located (that is to say Cumberland or Johnstown) was caused because part of Johnstown Township had Rural Free delivery (RFD) and so it would make sense that they were assigned a Cumberland post office address. While they were gone, they rented their farm to their close friends - the Torsten Stenbraatens. They returned to their Warroad farm to stay in the fall of 1910 and then Leonard was born on October 8, 1911.

Post card from Della Bloom, dated Oct 28th 1907

Mailed to: Miss Alice Bloom,
Chisago City, Minn
c/o David Bloom

Greetings from Laverna & Roy.

Mailed from Center City, Minnesota

(Note: Alice Bloom, daughter of Joe's brother David, was born 1904. Who the children are on the very left and the very right – I don't know but I suspect Alice Bloom is on the right. Why else was she sent this post card? Comment by Milan Bloom, 2007).

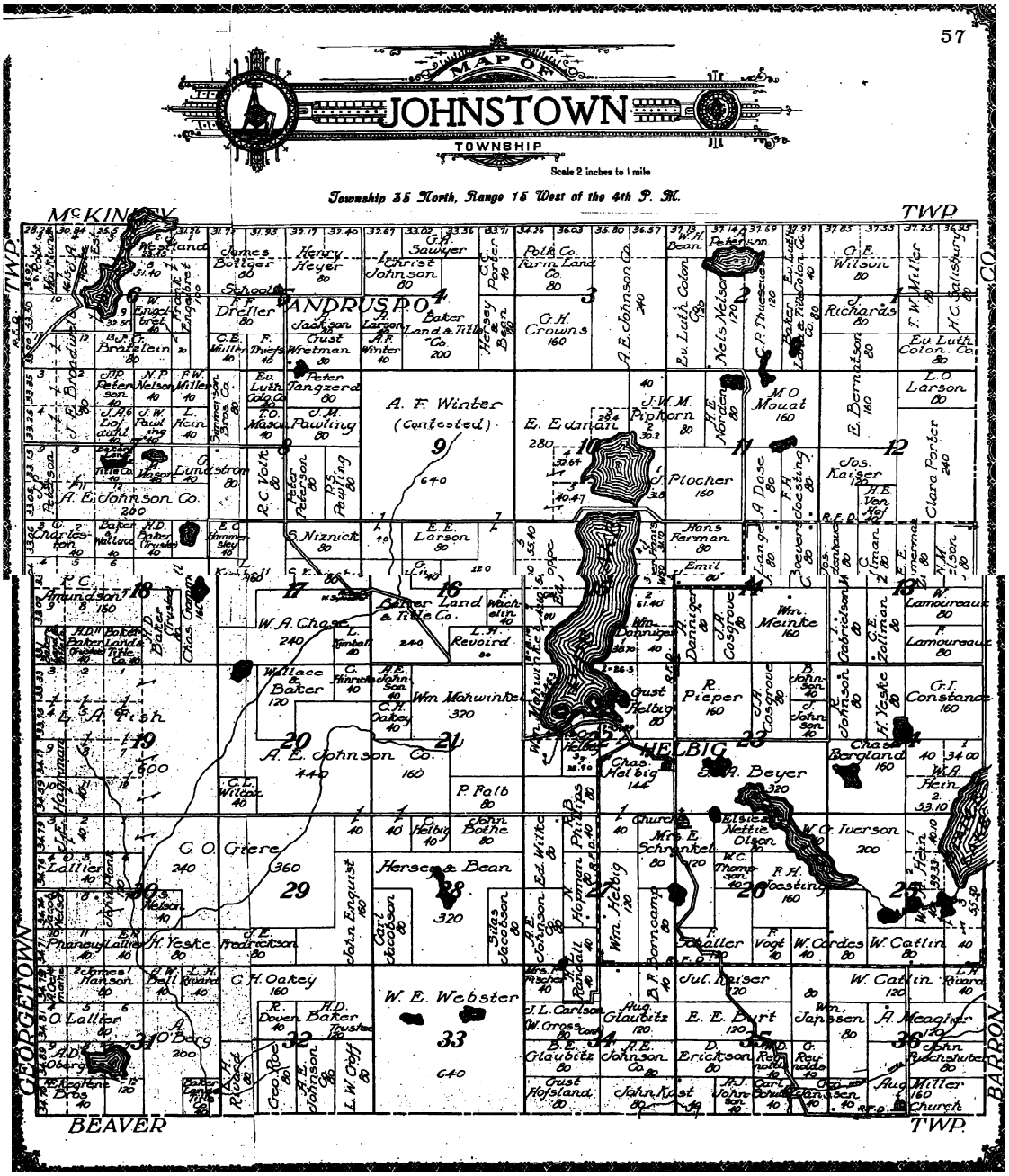
Both pictures most likely taken on June 5, 1907, the date of Roy's baptism in the Chisago Lake Lutheran Church and the date of the first documented Bloom family reunion.

Post card dated Oct 28th 1907

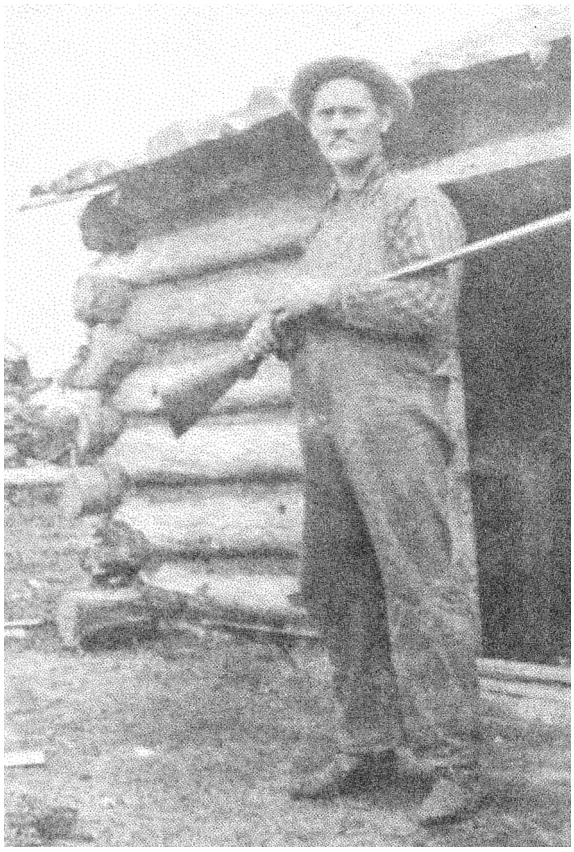
Mailed to: Miss Jessie Harkins,
Badger Minn, Roseau, Co.

Dear Miss Harkins,
How are you, we are all well,
Roy walking all over now,
will write a letter when
through house cleaning.
Della

Mailed from: Center City, Minnesota
On the left:
Della's daughter LaVerna: b 1905
Della's son: Roy b. 1906



Platt Map of Johnstown, Polk County, Wisconsin
1914
Joe and family were there in 1910



On December 22, 1910, (the Bloom's are now back from Wisconsin) Joe borrowed $400 (equal to $7,579 in 2003) from F. A. Peterson of Chisago County, Minnesota. The interest rate was the usual six percent with the usual five years to repay. To secure this loan, he mortgaged the western half of his farm (80 acres) that included all of his buildings. A mortgage to Mr. Peterson excluded one acre sold to school district #24 where the Bloom School was built. The school district paid twenty dollars (equal to $366 in 2003). This school was always called the Bloom School. His six kids attended all eight grades in the Bloom School. His grandchild, Alice (Roy Bloom's) completed her first two years there; one of LaVerna's children attended on a sporadic basis. Barbara Brenhaug Thompson attended 1944-1945. This school still stands but is unused.

In 1918 Joe moved his little house west across the field to a beautiful spot surrounded by beautiful birch trees where it stands to this day. He moved it by using horses and a block and tackle; he also used logs underneath for rollers. He built on a large room with an upstairs room above it of the same size. The new addition was the kitchen, and the upstairs room was the master bedroom. There was a well for water with a hand pump right next to the kitchen sink, and the sink drained into a septic tank. They had a beautiful black and white cook stove and a wood box beside it. This wood box was filled every night with split poplar wood that is a type of tree to burn in a cook stove. If it was empty, Della would say, "No wood in the box, so I don't have to cook any food". The wood box would get filled in a hurry! He had already built a huge red barn on the new spot in 1916.

There was a grove of poplar trees in the southwest corner of the yard near the main road. This is where his kids played a lot and had picnics because it was shady. He believed the new spot would be closer to the improved road that would be built one day, but as it happened the road was built following the original trail so he didn't gain much. One of the winter jobs for the men was to haul logs from the pasture and saw them in one-foot lengths that fit in the cook stove. Other types of wood would be sawed in longer lengths to burn in the heating stove that was in the living room (or in the basement in Joe's case); this heater kept the house warm through the sub-zero winter months. Getting the wood for the stoves was done after all the farm work was done in the fall before the heavy snowstorms came in the winter. After the snowstorms came, they would haul logs with horses and sleighs; most of the wood sawing was done in the early spring. A motorized saw was used, but three men were needed, so neighbor helped neighbor.

View of Southeast Johnstown, Township, Wisconsin, 2006

Joseph and his family raised milk cows, some grain and also eggs from their 200 chickens. They sold eggs year around and live adult chickens in the fall. They ordered chicks each spring. The chicks came in the U.S. mail.

On May 31, 1916, Joe borrowed $2,200 (equal to $35,765 in 2003) from his brother Frank. He needed to build a big barn, and that summer he moved his cattle in. Roy claimed the barn was built so tight that when cattle were in there, it would put out the flame from a lantern!

Joe's first love though was raising potatoes. Roy, Ed Kenitz and other area potato growers owned a potato warehouse directly north of the creamery. They raised "Foundation Stock" that had to be raised even more carefully than certified seed.

Roy LaVerna Leonard Florence

"Foundation Stock" was planted by walking the prepared ground with a sack of potatoes on your back, cutting the spud in four to eight pieces, making sure each potato piece has an "eye" (so it would sprout) and dropping them into the prepared soil – one piece right after the other - and then leaving a the all important space. Later in the summer, the farmer would walk the potato rows looking for deceased plants. Since the foundation seed potato had been planted in sets of 4 to eight - followed by a space, he could determine which plants were related; this made it possible to cut out all of the related plants. After each potato was cut, the knife was sterilized in a solution. Joe and son Roy sometimes hired kids to do the planting and they made good money in 1936 and 1937.

One fall, sometime before 1920, Joe had several bushels of potatoes that he could have sold for one dollar a bushel (ten to fifteen dollars in today's money). He took a chance and held them over until spring thinking he would get a better price. He stored them in his root cellar. The next spring he loaded them on a train and hauled them to the Twin Cities. He went along on the train and sold them for four dollars a bushel ($40-$60 in 2003 money). He took this money and bought his first car, a new Model T Ford.

Son Roy worked on the oar docks in 1929 and brought home a car that had the more common three-speed floor shift. The family never drove the Model T again, and Joseph never drove any car again, either. When Joseph's oldest son, Roy, got married in June of 1935, he was made a partner in the farming operation. That fall they bought their first tractor, a model "B" John Deere purchased from Fredricson's Implement in Roseau. He was plowing on the east side of the east branch of the Warroad River where the soil tends to be hard. Joe would go forward with a jerk and then back up and jerk forward again. He told Roy that they needed to upsize their tractor to the next size and so in the spring of 1938, they traded up to a 1938 model "A". Roy kept that tractor until the early 1960's. In those days a threshing machine took quite a crew to operate, so neighbors often owned a thresher together. Joe owned one with Ed Kenitz, Clarence Green and Rander Carlson.

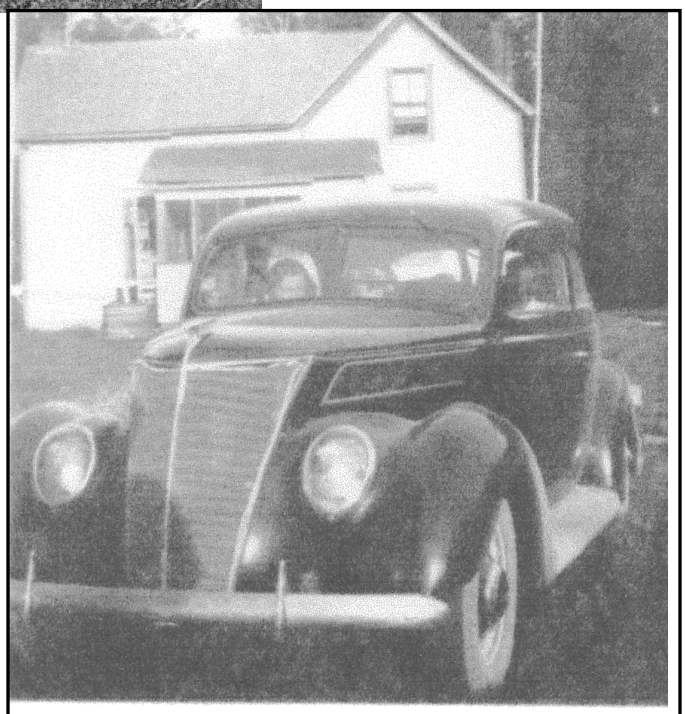
Joe couldn't do heavy work during his last 20 years most likely from exercised-induced spontaneous Pneumothorax-Partial (ruptured small blebs on the surface of lung). The problem seemed to have started when he overexerted forking frozen manure – sometime in his late 40's and if he did heavy work after that, he would have heart pain, trouble breathing and wouldn't be able to work the next day.

One year Roy had sold a bunch of potatoes to Willie Carlson of Lake Bronson and was given a down payment of $1,000 (approximately $10,000 in today's money). Unfortunately, the manager of the partnership's warehouse dumped potatoes with ring rot on the top of the pile, and Roy lost the whole sale. He had to return the thousand dollars; it was an astronomical financial blow in those days. In 1937 Joe, Della and Ed Kenitz went in Ed's car to California to contact potato growers there and encourage them to buy more of the Joe and Roy Bloom potatoes. Nineteen-thirty-seven was a wet year but the Bader field was well drained, and their potatoes flourished.

Joe would also put up the hay on his brother Frank's farm which, as mentioned earlier, was about another 3 ½ miles to the south of Joe's homestead..

LaVerna Bloom (about age 16) on Hilding Porter's tractor. Hilding was Ruth Porter Bloom's brother. The tractor is about a 1918 - 1920 Moline.

Joseph Bloom was active in religious and civic affairs throughout his lifetime. In church Joe's family always sat in the third row from the front on the right-hand side. He was a charter member of the Zion Lutheran Church in Warroad and a deacon of that church for 35 years. He also served as a member of the school board for 35 years. He was a successful farmer and outstanding citizen. Joseph Bloom of Moranville died at 2 a.m. on Friday July 14, 1944. He had been ill for his last year and a half with cancer. He was 66 years old. Funeral services were held at two o'clock at the Lutheran Church in Warroad, Minnesota, with the Rev. Aner Bloom of Grand Forks, a nephew, officiating. Business places in Warroad were closed during the services. Interment was in the Riverside Cemetery.



Roy's 1936 Ford.
Note the plexiglass window that kept the windshield from frosting up by providing a thermopane effect. They had electric wires in them to heat the space between the windshield and plexiglass. Joe's house is in the background. The gable end facing us is part of the original house that was moved to this spot in 1918. The pitched roof going to the left with the chimney on the extreme left is the part added later.

Below: Della and Joseph Bloom Family About 1930

Back row: May, LaVerna, Florence, Roy, Leonard Front Row: Della, Frank, Joseph

March 25, 1945 Della Bloom Called to Rest

The community was grieved Sunday morning to hear of the sudden death of Mrs. Joseph Bloom at the Warroad hospital.

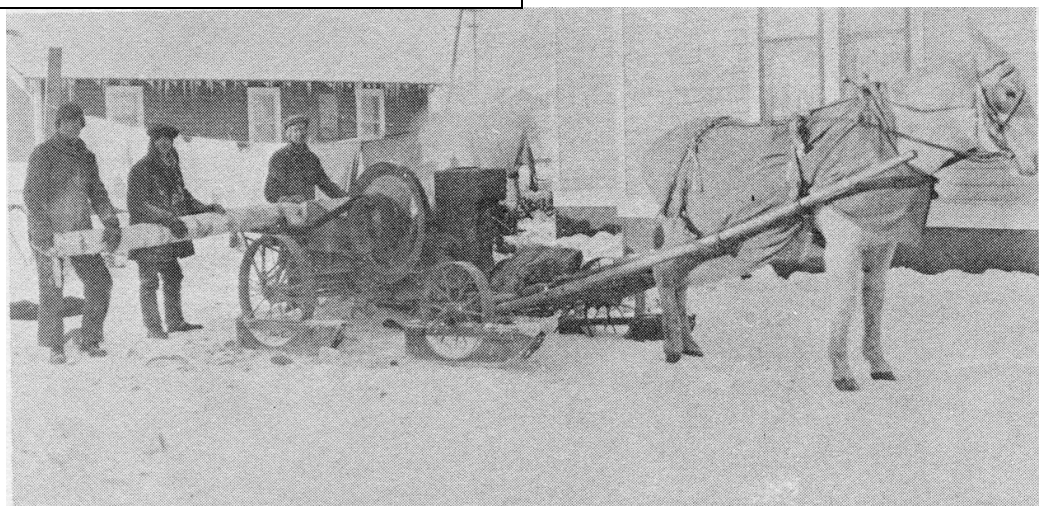
Mrs. Bloom underwent a gall-bladder operation on March 16th. On the following Sunday, bronchial pneumonia set in, but by Tuesday, she seemed well on the way to recovery. Friday and Saturday nights, when her children and friends visited her, she was very jovial and talked of the few remaining days she had left in the hospital.

Her death at 3 a.m. Palm Sunday came as a shock to her children and all who knew her. Death was due to coronary occlusion.

She was confirmed on May 17, 1896, at the Chisago City Lutheran Church. She was sixty-four years old, five months and fifteen days.

Roy and LaVerna were confirmed on the same day. That would make this June 6, 1920.

Joe Bloom's children in their "Classic Pose." L-R Roy, May, Frank, Leonard, LaVerna, Florence – June 1975. Taken at Roy's place.



This is a picture of how wood for the house – both heat and cooking - was cut into blocks. The next task was to split the wood into smaller diameters. This is not a picture at the Bloom's but it is a picture of the motorized saw and how "neighbors helped neighbors" (referenced previously). Also, note the skis under the wheels. I believe the animal is a mule not a horse and notice he has been covered with a blanket. I believe this picture was "posed" because they wouldn't have sawed with the mule/horse hooked up. Too dangerous. If the animal moved when the saw was spinning --- well you get the picture.

Joe and Della's House in 1904

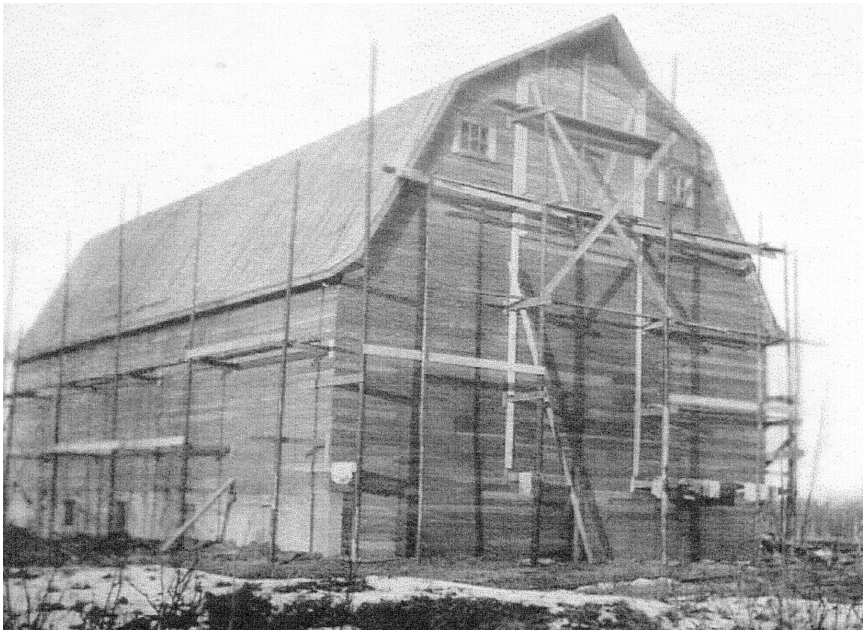
1925
in its new location
since 1918

Joe Bloom's house 1995

Just an educated guess but I think the girl next to Joseph is Florence I also think this might be 1923 on the occasion of Florence's confirmation. (Could it be Florence's confirmation party with her friends? Also, I think that behind Joe's car is Hilding Porter's Moline tractor (see earlier picture).

7-15-1934 Wesley John Brenhaug

"When I was at Grandpa Bloom's as a little boy, I enjoyed milking time at the farm. As children, we were allowed to sit at the big doors of grandpa's barn. Oh, how I enjoyed listening to the sounds of the cows being milked and the clanging of milk cans. There was another thing I looked forward to at milking time. A friend of Grandpa's would come every evening to get milk. I can still see it in my mind: this man coming from across the river, up this narrow trail, milk container in hand. Grandpa's friend always seemed happy to see us. He would always sit down on a stool and visit with us and tell us interesting stories. He was a special man to me. After getting his milk container filled with fresh milk, he would head for home. This man was Hilding Porter." Wesley married Muriel Melby (b. 4-27-1936) on August 9, 1961. They have three children: Paul, Steven and Mary Ellen.



Joe's barn under construction in spring of 1916. The big doors Wesley is referring to are where the livestock entered the basement below the hill and in back. Frank Bloom's wife, Ruth Porter, and Hilding Porter were sister and brother.

Must be summer of 1916 or 1917

Joe Bloom's barn about 1925. Left to right is son Frank, wife Della and son Leonard

If only Joe (and his children) could have seen how his business practices worked out because when the final value of his estate was calculated in **1948**, there was about **$8,000** to distribute to the heirs plus (I assume) another 10% to the estate's administrator, Ed Kenitz. Therefore, it looks to me that the estate's total net worth in **1948** (when the estate was settled) was **$8,889** and that is equivalent to **$80,000** in 2008 money. (Note: A net worth of **$8,889** in **1945** (when Grandma died) was equivalent to **$106,000** in 2008 dollars).

Roy paid **$2,500 ($22,380** in **2008** money) the estate for the east 80 acres (no buildings).

Frank paid **$3,500 ($31,330** in **2008** money) to the estate for the west 80 acres because it had all of the buildings.

Only people like Milan fusses with details like this but he comes by it naturally. Grandpa Joe did the same thing. All over his farm - in his barn, in his haymow - you name it, would be found pieces of lumber with his "figuring" on them. Regretfully, in later years, Joe and Della's children didn't do the analysis that we have shown above and so they didn't realize that $8,000 in 1948 was "real money". They felt badly for their parents who worked so hard and, based on the cold numbers, accumulated very little. Actually, Joe and Della did quite well.

On the next page is the image of the official copy of the Personal Property inventory and appraised value of the Della Bloom estate as of April 9, 1945. Eventually there was an auction sale.

Appraisal Value of Della F. Bloom Estate

Taken April 9th. 1945.

Cows.

No.	Value	Owner
1		May&Marvin Kling
2	75.00	Estate
3	95.00	"
4	75.00	"
5	85.00	"
6	95.00	"
7	100.00	"
8	75.00	"
9	110.00	"
10	60.00	"
11	90.00	"
12		Frank Bloom
13	100.00	Estate
14	110.00	"
15	75.00	"
16	90.00	"
17	55.00	1/2 "
18		May&Marvin Kling
19	60.00	Estate
20		Frank Bloom

Bulls & Young Stock 1/2

1 Bull	Value $100.00	Estate	
1 Heifer	40.00	1/2	"
1 "	40.00	1/2	"
1 "	40.00	1/2	"
1 Bull	20.00		"
8 Calves	200.00	1/2	"
6 "	90.00	1/2	"
	$1322.50		
2 Horses	Value $140.00		"
3 Hogs	" 120.00	1/2 Est.	

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

1 Table	Value $7.00	Owner Estate
1 Pedestal	1.50	"
2 Table	1.00	"
3 Chairs	20.00	"
1 Parlor Suit	35.00	"
1 Foot Stool	1.50	"
1 Magazine Ra	1.50	
1 Piano		May Kling
1 Floor Lamp		Frank Bloom
1 Porch Davenport	15.00	Estate
1 Cot	5.00	"
1 Library Tab.	5.00	"
1 Cook Stove	30.00	"
1 Oil "	8.00	"
1 Freezer	150.00	"
1 Gyrator Washer		May Kling
1 Maytag "	40.00	Estate
2 Beds	16.00	"
1 End Table	5.00	
	$341.50	

Machinery

	Value	Owner
1 Platform Scale	30.00	Estate
1 Manure Spreader		Frank Bloom
2 Oil Barrels	6.00	1/2 Estate
1 Tractor		1/2 "
1 Cream Seperator	70.00	1/2 "
1 Grindstone	5.00	"
1 Potato Digger	130.00	1/2 "
1 " Planter	175.00	1/2 "
1 Corn Binder	200.00	1/2 "
1 Row Cultivator	100.00	1/2 "
1 Peg Tooth Harrow	15.00	1/2 "
1 Drill		Roy Bloom
1 Binder		Frank "
1 Sweep Rake	20.00	1/2 Estate
1 Corn Planter	25.00	1/3 "
1 Disc Harrow		Frank Bloom
1 Mower	60.00	Estate
1 Tractor Plow	70.00	1/2 "
1 Field Cult.	75.00	1/2 "
1 Hay Loader	75.00	"
1 Riding Cult.	10.00	"
1 Sleigh	15.00	"
1 Windrower	10.00	1/2 "
2 Wagons	20.00	"
1 Hay Rake	10.00	1/2 "
1 " "	15.00	"
1 Radio	5.00	"
1 Ensilage Cutter	100.00	1/4 "
1 Thresher	300.00	1/8 "
1 Car 35 V8		1/2 "
1 Water Tank	10.00	"
	786.33	

Additional Machenery

1 Potato Grader	10.00	1/2	"
1 " Sprayer	200.00	1/4	"
1 Drill	10.00	1/2	"
	220.00		
Estate intrest	60.00		

Summary of Estate Value as Appraised

Cows & Young Stock	1322.50
Horses	140.00
Hogs	60.00
Machinery Appraised	786.33
Tractor Est.	325.00
Auto "	150.00
Household Goods	341.50
Additional Machinery	60.00
	$3185.33

Money & Credits

$ 73.79	Joint Account	1/2 Estate
200.00	Security State Bank	Warpad Estate
100.00	Williams State Bank	Williams "
35.00	2 U.S.War Bonds @17.50 Each	"
381.89	Liquid Assets	Estate

Error: Bonds should be $18.75 each Total 374.39

Same as $3,314 in 2009 →

2-19-1905 LaVerna Bloom 5-15-1988

Written by LaVerna herself

Willow Creek School 1914-1915 (about 5 ½ miles north of Roosevelt on highway 17 – across the rode from Mt. Carmel Lutheran): LaVerna was the teacher here from fall 1924 to spring 1926. Mrs. Ellen Kling, mother-in-law to LaVerna's sister May, was one of the three school board members here in 1914. May's husband, Marvin and two of his siblings are in this picture. Nineteen fourteen – a lady board member – think about it! LaVerna got her teaching certificate from Bemidji, Minnesota Teachers college in 1924, 80 miles away. Roy recalled how his dad used his Model T to transport LaVerna to/from college. When it got dark, they lit the car's tail lights. The tail lights used either automotive gasoline or possibly Kerosene. The headlights got power from the engine's ignition system.

At the Bloom family farm located south of Warroad, Minnesota, The Reverend Aner Bloom united Olaf Brenhaug and LaVerna Bloom in marriage.

Olaf underwent surgery in Roseau, Minnesota, in 1928, followed by another surgery in Duluth, Minnesota in 1929. (He was one of the few people that lived through a ruptured appendix – and know antibiotics in those days. Comment added by Milan Bloom). The couple moved to Duluth during the spring of 1929. They became parents to a baby girl, Florence Jeannine, in December of 1929. Grandma Della, LaVerna's mother, spent ten days assisting LaVerna after delivery.

Olaf worked in Duluth as a stone mason's apprentice. Olaf and LaVerna remained residents of Duluth until the spring of 1930. The couple moved with their infant daughter shortly thereafter.

Olaf and LaVerna acquired the Brenhaug farm in 1931. It was a huge undertaking as the purchase price was $1,825. The Brenhaugs paid semi-annual payments of $90 each spring and fall. They were blessed with four additional children during their time on the farm: another daughter, Barbara; two sons, Wesley and Roger; and baby, Lucille. The family was faced with many challenges and hardships along the way. During the spring of 1940 Olaf and LaVerna experienced a devastating fire in which they lost the majority of their possessions and their home. Following this tragedy, Olaf and LaVerna spent time split between their parents' homes. The grandparents helped provide a home for their family. A house was purchased from a local bachelor that was then moved onto the farm site. The house was unfinished, so Olaf's work was cut out for him as he and his family rebuilt.

Olaf landed a job at the Roseau Creamery where he learned the butter making trade. The days were long and LaVerna took over Olaf's chores and that became quite a hardship for her. She spent many hours feeding the animals as well as caring for her home and family. The farm was then sold for three thousand dollars, and the Brenhaug family moved to town (Roseau) in 1943. The couple had lived on the farm site for 13 years. They rented two different homes in Roseau prior to purchasing the house on Third Avenue Northeast in 1946. This remained their home for many years to come.

Olaf and LaVerna had five children: Florence, Barbara, Wesley, Roger and Lucille.

At left about 1935. To the best of our knowledge, the picture was posed. We don't think that either one could ride a bike.

Story of Roy and Mildred Bloom

By daughter Alice and son Milan

Threshing in the Red River Valley - 1909

In the early 1900's it was customary for young fellows to work on the threshing crews on the big farms in North Western Minnesota and North Eastern North Dakota. Dad was no exception and we are guessing that he did this for at least two seasons – maybe more.

To get to get to the area where there was harvest work, these fellows "rode the rails" – in other words they rode on freight cars for free. Then when they got to the locations, they slept in barns until they got hired – assuming they would get hired that is. One year, they arrived on location to soon, so there was no work and the only thing there was to eat was what they could steal out of gardens (seems like Dad mentioned stealing carrots) and try to stay warm at night in the barns. We Roy Bloom kids liked to hear the stories of threshing on these big farms which included stories of the large herds of poorly trained draft horses needed for the harvest and huge steam engines. We mention the horses because one year a runaway team almost squashed Dad between his wagon and a barn.

Then sometime in the late 1920's Dad and his brother Leonard and possibly his sister Florence (plus others of course) went to work in the woods north of Roosevelt, Minnesota - about 20 miles from home. They most likely did this more then one winter. We know Dad's job was to haul the timber to market Warroad (not necessarily to a saw mill) with horses and sleigh, Leonard and others cut the timber and, if Florence was involved, she would have been the cook. (By the way, my sister, Alice, and I both remember that our father, Roy and Lenard's sister Florence was with them and doing the cooking but this cannot be corroborated with any of Florence's family. In fact, Florence's family stories place Florence in Duluth, Minnesota and New York City at this time). Now we must remember that they had no specially designed weather proof warm clothes, no chain saws, no electricity, showers, propane tanks for heat and cooking, no power equipment to load the logs on the sleigh and they came home the twenty miles or so once a week – probably Saturday night. Although they did bring the horses home on the weekend, they mostly walked to stay warm. And did we mention – it was bitter cold. Also, try to visualize yourself cutting trees in -30 degree weather, getting damp from sweat and then stopping for a while. Can you just feel the bitter cold on that damp body while at rest?

As mentioned, Dad's job was to haul the timber to market by driving on the frozen southern part of Lake of the Woods. He always said he "crossed the lake" and based on a map, that can only mean he hauled the logs to Warroad. Although, I never asked him about hauling to Warroad, a current old timer assured me the summer of 2010 that hauling to Warroad by way of the ice would have been the only logical route. This wouldn't be worth mentioning were it not for the fact that the lake ice would crack and open up and there were cases where horses and sleighs fell in. In fact, in one case, the horses, sleigh and load fell in and were last heard under the ice – and there was nothing the teamster could do about it. Dad talked about the problems he had with the cracks but nothing happened to him nor his equipment. People now days couldn't do it. By-the-way, when the horses fell through a crack, teamsters usually got them out. Find a horseman and ask "How did they do that?" On second thought, you may not want to know.

In 1929, he spent about a year in Duluth working on ore dock number 6 and lived with his sister LaVerna and husband Olaf Brenhaug. We don't know how much Dad earned per hour on the ore docks but we do know that Olaf was earning 55 1/2 cents per hour on his Duluth job. Since this was 1929 and the beginning of the depression, Roy had to leave Duluth and return to the farm. That wasn't all bad, he earned enough to buy a car while in Duluth and it was more modern and easier to drive then his dad's Model T Ford. When our father got home with his modern car, the Model T was retired.

Then we think it was in 1933 that our mother visited her oldest sister, Louise. Louise was teaching country school in Roseau County at that time and Mom heard of a second cousin's family that lived nearby who needed a hired girl. And so, mother went to work for this family, the Olaf and LaVerna Brenhaug's. She did household chores, childcare and milked the cows. As luck would have it, her employer,

About 1935 →

LaVerna, was sister to Mom's future husband, Roy Bloom, and that made it easy for Mom and Dad to meet. Mom was a wonderful bread maker and Dad was teased that he would go wherever our mother worked just to eat her bread.

After some months working at the Brenhaug's, Mom took a similar job close to the Bloom family farm. This job was at the Clarence and Olga Green farm which was southeast of the Joe Bloom place. Being a hired girl meant hard physical work. Mother commented more than once that she felt like she went from the frying pan (LaVerna's) right into the fire with Olga and her three little boys. Olga didn't think anything would come of the romance since Dad didn't come calling very often. Dad's comment to that was that after working all day on the farm, he was too tired to walk the mile and half over to see her. In spite of Olga's thinking on this matter, the chances of this romance failing were slim because Dad had already gone to Gonvick, Minnesota to meet our mother's folks, the Lars Brandens. In fact, this trip was made on the weekend of October 13, 1934 a few days before Mom went to work at Olga's on October 17, 1934.

Most of Dad's courting was done in the winter of 1934-1935 and in later years he said that it was so cold walking over to the Green's that he had to guard against the natural urge to lie down and go to sleep. That's been known to happen when the cold is severe and then you freeze to death. He also tried going directly across the huge, mostly open field between the two farmsteads on skis. Of course his skis where home-made from a piece of flat lumber and tipped with barrels staves to form the curved end in front. Well, he did try to cross-country ski to see Mildred but he threw the skis down in disgust. Yes, winter courting in the mid 1930s was problematic.

Back Row: Grandma Bloom, Roy, Alice Branden, Grandpa Branden, Grandpa Bloom. Mid Row: Mildred, Henry's girl friend Pearl Toft, Esther Branden, best man Leonard Bloom, unknown. Front: Art Branden, Lawrence Branden, Unknown

All pictures this page
June 8, 1935

Well anyway, our folks were married June 8, 1935 in the same Gonvick, Minnesota church Mother was confirmed in. The Pastor forgot to have the groom give the bride the wedding ring, so afterwards, Dad said to his new bride, **"We're married now so you might as well have the ring"**. Since it was the depression and there was no money for a honeymoon, (Mother even paid for the license – I think it was $2.00) the new couple spent their first night at the house of Mom's folks (Grandpa Lars). There was only bedroom space for the parents and Mom and Dad, so the rest of their siblings stayed up all night and played cards. No more beds were available. Dad's youngest sister, May and brother, Frank, couldn't attend the wedding because they had to stay back on the farm in Warroad and milk the cows. The next day, the new couple and all of the Bloom's returned to the Bloom farm where Mom, Dad and his folks lived together for the next five years. Soon after they returned home, Mom overheard a conversation between Dad's folks that **"Since Roy is married now, he needs to be paid."** Of course Dad had been doing much of the

farming since Grandpa Joe couldn't do any hard physical work anyway and brother Frank was still in high school and brother Leonard was working at the creamery in Warroad. For his work, Dad had been given room and board. Of course these were depression years, so he was thankful to get that. I do wonder though, since Dad smoked in those days, where did he get money for tobacco or money to operate his car? Did he ask his father for a smoke? (Joe smoked a corncob pipe and Dad rolled his own).

Alice was born on July 8, 1937 and Mother told us that adding a baby to the household was not easy for either Mom nor Grandma. Then in May, 1939, Della's daughter, Florence, came home to the Joe Bloom's to have her first baby. Florence was living in New York at the time and it was quite common for a new mother to have her first baby while living with the soon to be Grandmother. At about seven months pregnant, Florence made the trip to the Warroad farm by train and the last 80 miles or so was on the train called the "Galloping Goose". It was a rough ride and that may explain why Florence's baby daughter, Marilyn was born two months early – a big deal even today and this was in 1939. How long Marilyn was in the hospital I don't know but our mother said she was so small that she was put in a small box and placed on the open, wood fired, oven door to keep her warm. Since Alice was just two years old and there were now three "ladies of the house" this made a very busy household.

After 5 years, my folks bought a farm two miles south of Warroad. This farm was adjacent and a bit north and east of Grandpa's.

On the left is Mom and Dad's first house after it was moved - we think, spring 1941. Oh, yes we are living there at this point because there is a cloths line in the back and a car in the driveway. We paid $200 for it. (Lets see: in 1936, $700 for a new Ford car and in 1941, $200 for a house – make sense?). It was moved in one day from another farm about 2 miles away and we mean loaded on the truck and unloaded onto the new foundation in one day. On the right is the house later with Alice on the step.

On this property, my dad carefully the selected trees he wanted to save for a house and yard and cut down the rest (see pictures previously). We think we moved to this place in the spring of 1941, but certainly before brother Milan was born in July 1941.

This little house had a kitchen, living room and an upstairs that had a chimney going through the center of it. It also had a basement that could be reached by a trap door through the kitchen floor. One time when our folks were putting new linoleum on the kitchen floor and the trap door was covered up, Alice fell through that opening and down to the basement floor. Then the hole closed up and they couldn't find her.

Then in about 1941-1942 we provided room and board in this small house to Mildred Bakken - the Bloom school teacher. She was a good friend of Mother's. The schoolteacher and Alice shared the upstairs and Mom, Dad and baby Milan slept in the living room. Miss Bakken taught at the Bloom school for one year and that school was on property next to our Grandfather's. Usually, the schoolteacher stayed next door at the Joe Bloom's, which was a much bigger house, but it was the teacher's choice to stay 1/2 mile away at our place.

The Roy Bloom's when we were living with Roy's brother, Frank

Alice spent her first two years of school at the Bloom school and then a vote came to consolidate this country school with the one in Warroad. This made Mother happy since she always felt that it was better to be educated in a town school. Our Grandma Della, on the other hand, was worried that property taxes would go up.

Mother had a gasoline powered washing machine that was vented out the kitchen window. On wash days the washer took up all the room in this small kitchen plus she had two wash tubs by the machine for rinsing. Of course she fed the ringer manually (the clothes were fed between two rollers that squeezed out the water) and she had to be careful not to get her hands got caught in that ringer. And where did she dry her clothes? On the clothes line, outside, winter and summer. Winter? Freeze dried I guess. How did that work than? Snow, cold, frozen fingers – think about it.

Mother's routine was to wash on Mondays, iron on Tuesday and bake bread on Wednesday. Probably had to fit the mending in (to include socks) whenever she could. We don't know if there was any specific task for Thursdays or Fridays. Than there was more bread baking on Saturday and of course making a dessert for the Sunday meal. Also, Saturday meant cleaning the house and washing the floors. Naturally, she had to wash the cream separator every morning. She had Alice do things in the house but would not teach her to wash the separator. She didn't trust Alice to do a good enough job and was very particular on how that was done. Then there was gardening, canning and picking berries and sewing projects and three big meals on time.

Below is our house – built in 1949 – 1950. Picture taken in the 1970's

Our farm was the first one to be hooked up to electricity and that was in November 1944. Getting hooked up had been delayed some years due to WWII. Having electricity made a big difference for the farmers. For one thing, this made it practical to have a milking machine. Before electricity Mom would help milk but then she had to run back and forth between the house and barn to check on her three kids (even brother Wallace was born before we had electricity). And, there was the danger that we kids would set the house on fire because we used kerosene lanterns. Of course, probably the most dangerous place for these lanterns was the barn. Wallace was born June 7, 1944 and Mom was anemic at this time, so she needed a hired girl. That first and only hired girl lasted just one day. Her name was Betty Sutliff and the first day she was supposed to work, she sprained her ankle in gym class so that was the end of my mother's hired help.

Roy and Mildred Bloom on their 45th wedding anniversary. 1980
Children: Alice, Wallace, Milan

In 1949, our family built a new house over the original foundation of the little one. The little house was sold and moved off its foundation and the original basement became the furnace room for the new one. Yes that was the size of the little house – remember that kitchen

and the washing machine? In the summer of 1949 when the basement walls were being poured for the new house we all watched in horror as our Uncle Frank, who was hauling water in a stock tank to the concrete mixer, drove Dad's tractor to close to the edge of the bare dirt basement wall and tipped the tractor down into the hole. It landed on its side – still running. Uncle Frank jumped clear before the tractor went down and Milan still remembers Dad going down to shut the tractor off. The tractor went down where we see the shrubs next to the foundation in the previous page. The tractor lived on for another 15 years or more.

While the house was being built (spring of 1949 until late winter 1950), we lived with Dad's brother, our Uncle Frank. By this time, Uncle Frank was the sole owner of our Grandparents place since Grandma and Grandpa Bloom had died some years before. Incidentally, our Uncle Frank had already been taking most of his meals with our family and for this he paid $25.00 per month. Milan thinks that our mother took this money to make monthly payments for the piano that was bought from our Aunt May.

While living with Uncle Frank in the old Joe Bloom house, Mother and Uncle Frank decided to do some redecorating upstairs. They planned to put new wallpaper in the master bedroom which we all thought to be such a big room. Alice became very involved in the process and started to pull off the many layers of paper in the stairwell. At they were not too pleased with this since this meant more work and more new wallpaper. When sleeping, Dad had a terrible habit of uttering very loud blood curdling noises when someone would walk on the floor. One time brother Milan (at about the age of 8) had the flu and got up to go down those steep spooky stairs. Just then, Dad let out one of his noises and it was a dandy. Of course, that scared Milan and he almost fell down the stairs. How Mom took the noise when she was trying to sleep we don't know. Then there was another time when our Aunt May was doing some private duty nursing for George Marvin and one of the Marvin sons would come to get her to take her to work – May was living about ½ mile from our place at the time. Well this one night, whoever came to get May was having car trouble near our house and needed to come in our house and make a phone call. Oh, they knocked on our door but nobody answered and so they let themselves in and went to the phone. Well, Dad let out one of his better blood curlers. Later, they did indicate that the noise scared them but they didn't see anybody or a gun pointed at them so they hung tough and made the phone call.

From left to right, this is Florence and Roy Bloom (both from the Joe Bloom family). I (Milan) got this picture in New York where Florence (Joe Bloom's daughter) had lived for many years. Florence labeled the other girl as "Lavina". On October 1, 2003, I (Milan Bloom) called Frank and Ruth (Porter) Bloom's daughter, Lavina Bloom Bloomquist, and she confirmed that it was her.

Alice came to believe that Uncle Frank's house had friendly ghosts. One night Alice woke with a ghost looking at her from the doorway and although she was happy to have her own room, she refused to sleep in that room again. Fortunately, mother made no attempt to force her to sleep there; she just put another bed in the master bedroom where Mom, Dad and the two brothers were already sleeping. In later years, other people who owned the house reported that the house had friendly ghosts, too, so we don't know . . .

May 11, 1915 May Axelina Jeanette Bloom May 1, 2001

Years covered by story: 1915-1940 Written by May, herself

On the banks of the west branch of the Warroad River, two and one-half miles south of Warroad in a little house of two rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs a baby girl was born to Della and Joseph Bloom, May Axelina Jeanette Bloom. I was the fifth child to delight these parents. The previous four children were LaVerna age 10, Roy age 9, Florence age 7 and Leonard age 3 years and 7 months. It was a cold morning and as brother Roy relates, "It was cold, but we had to go outside anyway while this new baby was being born". Warroad, Minnesota, is located six miles from Canada on the shores of Lake of the Woods. Even though it was the month of May (hence my name), the weather had not warmed up yet, especially in the early morning hours. Mama didn't have the pleasure of a doctor to deliver any of us kids, but there were a couple of neighbor women who would come and help. Mrs. Murray was supposed to help with my delivery, but she was busy with another. Papa went over to get Mrs. Gravell who helped me into this world.

When I was three years old, Papa moved our little house west across the field to a beautiful little spot surrounded by beautiful birch trees where it stands to this day. He had already built a huge red barn on the spot in 1916, but I was only one year old, so I don't remember anything about that. Papa cleared a spot to make room for the house, and I remember a grove of poplar trees in the southwest corner of the yard near the main road. Here we played a lot because it was shady, and we had picnics, too. The new addition was the kitchen, and the new upstairs room was Mama and Papa's bedroom. Mama always said she wanted a big room where she could do all her cooking and have a large dining room table plus plenty of room to move around in. There was a well for water with a hand pump right next to the kitchen sink, and the sink drained into a septic tank. Why Papa built the septic tank, I don't know unless he thought we would one day have an indoor toilet. He also built on a front porch and a back porch. Both were screened in to keep the mosquitoes out. In the summer time, the front porch was like an extra living room, and we spent our leisure time there. We never went to a restaurant; there was no money for that.

I was a "tomboy". I would rather work or play outside than be in the house. Some of the work wasn't so much fun like milking cows, picking potatoes and weeding a very large garden. Mama did a lot of canning and preserving of vegetables and fruit that would last all winter. She did most of the canning of the fruit and vegetables in two-quart jars. There were no pressure cookers in those days; she would often run out of Kerr lids, so one of the boys would have to run to the store to get more. We always butchered a pig and a beef in the fall. Canning or using salt preserved much. The hams and bacon were smoked which Papa did in his granary. There was no refrigeration available except out in the front porch when the weather got down to twenty degrees below zero.

(May's brother, Frank, reported that the beef would be preserved over winter by simply taking advantage of the cold temperature on the front porch. He said they would lay the carcass there, cover it up and eat off it until spring when it started to warm up. Then they would "can" what was left.)

We didn't have any money to spend, but we always had ample food to eat. Flour and sugar were bought in 100 pound sacks. After the flour was gone, Mama would make dishtowels, pillowcases, sheets and pretty aprons. Aprons were worn every day when working in the kitchen. Mama's handwork was knitting, and she made all of our stockings, mittens and caps that kept her busy all winter long. She would never knit on Sundays, Easter Sunday or Christmas Day. She said, "These days are holy days and no work is done on these days except what has to be done like the barn chores and the cooking. There was no house cleaning, laundry or fieldwork. On Christmas Eve everything had to be done by five o'clock except the milking and the preparation of the Christmas Eve supper. The menu for this night was always fruit soup, lutefisk made in a cream sauce, boiled potatoes and a vegetable. For dessert we always had steamed suet pudding covered with a delicious lemon sauce that only Mama could make. Lefsa didn't come into our family until LaVerna and Roy married Norwegians. Mildred, or Mil as we called her, made the most delicious Lefsa, and her home made bread was "out of this world"; it just melted in the mouth. We always kidded Roy that he married Mil for her good bread baking.

Remember the serial on television "Have Gun Will Travel"? Until I was three years old, it was "Have May Will Travel". This started before I really remember, but I was told many times about running away

from home. One time I took three un-ironed dresses out of the clean clothesbasket, tucked them under my arm and went out to the road that passed our place. Here I waited for Elsie Stenbraaten (Sutliff) who I knew would be along in a one-horse buggy. I told her I could go home with her, and she took me to her place that was about one and one-half miles across the river and then west. She was going to high school at that time, and my parents didn't know where I was. In time they found me at the Stenbraatens. I don't remember if I got punished or not. Another episode of me running away was before brother Frank was born in the early spring. We had an unusual amount of rain, so the river was over the banks. I got over the bridge and on my way to Stenbraatens before the bridge floated away. A neighbor man tried to swim across, but the current was too strong; he couldn't make it. The telephone lines were down, so there was no communication. They were sure I must have drowned in the river. Later they found me at the Stenbraatens. I remember Mrs. Stenbraaten put me to bed, so she could wash my clothes. No un-ironed dresses this time. I have often wondered why I went to Stenbraatens. There were no little kids there to play with. Mr. and Mrs. Stenbraaten were my Godparents, so I guess I was special to them. I was "queen of the household" whenever I was there. How my parents must have worried about me. My last run away was when Frank was born, and I was five years old. I ran away to the Stenbraatens again, but I remember getting a good licking this time with a willow switch. It hurt. I never ran away from home again. I was, however, always ready to go with whoever would take me. After the last experience with the licking I got, I always told my parents about it. The fact that I enjoyed visiting the homes of my friends did create an extra problem for my mother even if she knew where I was. Some homes weren't too clean, and once I brought home scabies; another time it was lice and then there were the bed bugs. I can still see my mother using a real fine comb to comb out the lice onto a newspaper. Then she would squash them with her thumbnail. Getting rid of the bed bugs was worse. Oh, how she fought with them. She had to take the metal bed frames outside and hold a kerosene torch up against the frame. You could really see the bugs move around. She also sprinkled the mattress with some kind of chemical she got at the drugstore.

Gallants lived one and one-half miles away, and they had a daughter named Helen. Helen was only four months younger than me; there was a daughter named Margaret who was two years younger. In time Margaret skipped a grade, so she was only one year behind us in school. They also had a son named Fred who was two months older than Frank. We played together all the time since one and one-half miles in the country was "next door". Gallants also had three other children, so we had a good time, and they always had room for us even overnight. This is where I learned to play cards. My mother and father would not permit playing cards in our house, but that didn't stop me from learning to play Whist and all the other games we had so much fun playing. I remember somehow getting a deck of cards and putting them under my mattress. Mama found them and in the wood stove they went. That was also my experience with my "True Story Magazine." Seems she always found my hiding place under the mattress and destroyed the magazine because it was "too sexy." I was a little rebel growing up, but I loved my parents and they loved me, too. There was never a cross word that I remember between them. We were always in church every Sunday and always sat in the third pew from the front on the right-hand side of the church. This was not an easy task with six kids. This was done from the very first child. None of us kids wandered away from the faith we were brought up in (Lutheran), and all of us kids raised our children in the same faith; their children carry it on.

We lived next door to the one-room schoolhouse that was called District 24 but the school was always referred to as the Bloom School. Here all six of us kids got our first eight grades of education in a one room, one teacher schoolhouse for all the eight grades. A couple of teachers stayed at our place, and I especially remember Miss Listing whose home was in Roseau. She took me to her home for a couple of weekends that was a big event for me. I was in third grade, so I was eight years old at the time. Miss Listing lived in an apartment above her brother's furniture store right on main street in Roseau. In my eyes it was an elegant home. On Sunday morning I could look out of the front window and see downtown Roseau with the "city traffic" driving past and even some horses pulling wagons and buggies. I thought this was equal to heaven. Such a thrill I'll never forget. Miss Listing had a married sister living in another part of town, and she would take me over there to play with her nieces and nephews. Playing with these kids on a sidewalk in town was very impressive. I loved my home, and I liked the country living but to experience "town life" was so special!

Mary Kelly was the other teacher I remember who stayed with us during the school year. I did not have Mary Kelly for a teacher because I was already in high school during her days of teaching. My brother Frank was one of her students. The teachers always occupied the front bedroom upstairs (straight-ahead when coming up the stairs), the nicest room in the house, I thought. Having no bathroom or running water,

Mama had a small table on which she placed a beautiful washbasin and a large pitcher of water with pretty washcloths and towels. The teacher was given the very best. She ate with us at the family table in the kitchen, so she had what was called "board and room." We lived so close to the school that we kids had to come home for dinner at noon. Once and awhile though, Mama would pack a lunch in an empty syrup pail, so Frank and I could eat our dinner (or lunch as we call it now) at school with the other kids. On some days Frank and I would go to school by going out the front door and then up to the main road. We'd follow the road over a bit and then walk into the schoolyard same as the other kids. Sometimes we would go over to Gallants and stay overnight. Mrs. Gallant would pack us a lunch along with lunches for Helen, Margaret and Fred. We would eat lunch at school with the other kids. Brother Frank and I had it so convenient to go to school, but we kids didn't see this as a good thing. Some of the kids had to walk one and one-half miles like the Gallants or two and one-half miles like the Urtel boys.

I passed the eighth grade in the spring of 1929 with the wonderful help of my teacher, Olga Green. As of today, February 4, 1999, she is still living and is now 101 years old! It was a privilege to go on to high school, and only those kids who had the means and encouragement of their parents and the desire to go on made it to high school, especially for us who lived in the country. There were no school busses in those days. We either walked the two and one-half miles or our parents got a room or house in town for us kids to live in. Helen Gallant and I (and later her sister Margaret) wanted to go to high school. I had to walk the two and one-half miles into town. This I did until it got down to thirty or forty degrees below zero. To help keep warm, mama made leggings for me to wear, and they were held up with suspenders. We had to take these off in school; in those days girls wore dresses. Margaret Gallant was one year behind Helen and I in school, and I don't remember what the two of us did our freshman year. We must have "batched" in a little house or room someplace with Margaret joining us the following year when she was only thirteen. We brought food from home, got whatever supplies we needed from the store and cooked our food on a smelly-kerosene cook stove. We would go home every weekend, cook some more and do it all over again. For heat we burned wood in a small stove that kept us cozy warm, but the fire would go out during the night, and we would wake up to a terribly cold room. If we left some water in the washbasin overnight, it would freeze hard. That's how cold it would get at night. I guess we dressed, grabbed a bit of cold breakfast and went to school. We had to walk to school, and there was no money to go to the restaurant to get something to eat. Margaret and Helen always took care of making the fire in the stove because I had no knowledge of how to do this; besides, I was afraid to do it.

In my sophomore year we stayed across the street from the school in a one-room "upstairs." There was a family living downstairs, and they had two rooms. Their kitchen with its sloped roof was just a lean-to, so the only upstairs to this house was over their front room that I think was a combination bedroom and living room. Our access to the upstairs was to go up an outside ladder that was fastened to the outside wall of their kitchen. We walked over the sloped roof of their kitchen and entered our room through a regular door. It's a good thing we were young because older people wouldn't have dared walk on that kitchen roof when it had fresh snow on it. We had electric light, a table with three or four chairs, a chamber pot, and the wood burning Klondike stove in the center of the room that kept us warm. We had a kerosene cook stove and a double bed where the three of us slept. Even if we would have had individual beds, we would have just used one because of the cold. Helen and Margaret kept the fire in the stove going. We had to carry wood, water and food up the same way we went up ourselves. The ashes from the heater plus the chamber pot had to go down. There was an outhouse out back, but the only way up or down was that outside ladder and it was wintertime. Living this way wasn't much fun but if you wanted an education, this is what you did. I have marveled more than once how we kept from burning up with that Klondike stove and why we didn't fall off that roof. It was icy at times. We had two good girls who took care of the stove, and the good Lord watched over us. I don't remember if I was one of the best students in school, but I did make the honor roll along with Helen Gallant in 1930.

When I was a junior, Ada York taught at the Bloom School. Her parents lived north of the creamery next to what is now called the "Taylor Road" and is about one mile from school. She and I traded homes. She stayed at my place, and I stayed at her place. That was my most wonderful year of high school. Mrs. York was a wonderful, friendly person and had supper ready for Mr. York and me every night when we came home. Mr. York worked at Marvin Lumber and Cedar Company; that was what Marvins was called in those days. He had a car and drove to work every day, so their daughter, Myrna, who was attending Normal Teachers Training, their son Harold, who was a senior in high school, and I had a ride.

In my senior year, four of us stayed in a little two-room house with no upstairs. We heated the house with the same type of stove we had in that upstairs room. I guess we must have had just one double bed in

the tiny bedroom and another in the other room. Here we cooked our food on a kerosene cook stove and ate our meals. A lot of the food was prepared on weekends at home and brought in already cooked. I don't remember much about our sleeping and eating arrangement, but I know we didn't starve, and we did get our rest at night. I can still see the small house we lived in. Of course it was so cold by morning that the water in the washbasin was frozen, so we would dress in a hurry and head for school where it was always warm.

During all four years of high school, I was in the Girls' Glee Club directed by Superintendent Paul Chase; every year we went to Minneapolis to compete in the state music contest. One year, my first I think, there were 16 of us, and another year there were about 13 girls. Once I went as a part of a trio and in 1933 Ardelle Brohaugh, Violet Kofstad, Gladys Floe and I were entered as a quartet. We came home with a "B" rating that final year of high school. We traveled by private car with Mr. Chase using his car, and we stayed in the Andrews Hotel at least one year. Since these trips were taken during the depression, the money for these trips must have come out of the school budget or none of us could have gone. It didn't' hurt that music was our Superintendent's "thing."

May Bloom Kling 1997

After high school, I wanted to be a nurse, but there wasn't any money in 1933 for that. In fact Papa mentioned several times over the years that if the property taxes ever got up to one hundred dollars, he would lose the farm. Although nurses training seemed out of reach, I was also interested in going to the Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis, so I enrolled there. I guess my sister Florence helped me with my train fare to Minneapolis. Then I worked in a private home for my board and room plus one dollar a week. There was a five-year old boy and a three-year-old girl in this family. At LBI we only had morning classes, and I rode the streetcar home (that's where half of my one dollar a week went), so I had a lot of time to help this lady with her housework, her kids and do my schoolwork. I had Thursday afternoon off, so I would go with my school friends to downtown Minneapolis and have lunch in the cafeteria of the Foshey Tower. The man of the house where I stayed drove downtown every morning to his office and would give me a ride to school, so I saved the streetcar fare (fifty cents for the week one way). I spent the money I saved on my ride on the Thursday lunch. Usually the most I spent was forty-nine cents. I had to watch it, so I didn't go over the fifty cents, but it was a good meal for the money. Then we would go "window shopping." Since these were the Depression years, I didn't have any money to buy anything; nobody did in those days. I became very friendly with a classmate of mine from Hoope, North Dakota. Her name was Emma Odegard. Since her folks were wealthy potato farmers, she stayed in the dorm. She would invite me up to her room some Thursday afternoons, and we would study together or write letters. After supper I would take the streetcar home. I didn't actually eat supper there because I had already spent the forty-nine cents on dinner. In Minnesota it was breakfast, dinner and supper. Even in the city or at least coming from the farm that is the way it was to me then and is even now. The year following LBI (1934), there was definitely no money, so I stayed home that winter. It was not a good year for me because I had tasted city life, and I wanted to become a nurse.

May Bloom Kling's daughter, Miriam b. 1953 and Miriam's son, Christopher b. 1993

That next summer in 1935, I heard about the Immanuel Deaconess Institute in Omaha. I wrote to them for an application to enter school there and was accepted to become a deaconess. I was so glad to leave home and make something of myself that it didn't bother me that I would be entering a place that was similar to

the Catholic nuns. They would put me through school, and I would work for the Institute for a small allowance. Most of all, they had a hospital, and I could get my nurses training. I boarded the "Galloping Goose" on September 8, 1935, which was the name given to the Great Northern which only ran between Warroad to Crookston. I changed trains in Crookston and rode all night. I got to Minneapolis at 6:30 a.m. We had some dear friends living in Minneapolis who met me, entertained me all day and put me on the bus for Omaha in the evening. I arrived in Omaha at 6:00 a.m., and Sister Olive was there to meet me. She took me to the Deaconess Institute and to the Deaconess Home. This home was a beautiful building inside and out with well-kept grounds. I learned later that the gardener's name was Mr. Bloom although he was no relative to me. We did strike up a very friendly relationship. Every Christmas I just had to have a Christmas tree in my room, so I would go over to the greenhouse and Mr. Bloom would give me a cute little tree in a bucket of sand. I had a room with another girl on the fourth floor, and it was nice with a view of the chapel, the invalids' home, the front of the hospital and the green house. That is where I hoped to get my nurses training someday. First I had to have two years of deaconess training. There were six girls in our class: Petra, Christina, Ruth, Elverna, Ardelle and me. Petra became Pedee, Christina became Crisse, Ruth became Swartie (her last name was Schwartz). There were no nicknames for Elverna, Ardelle and me. Crissie and Pedee were sisters who grew up in Astoria, Oregon. Swartie came from Iowa, and Elverna was from Minneapolis.

After a year of deaconess training, we all became "sisters" and were addressed that way. We were called "invested" and presented with garb to wear. We had a little lace cap for our head that we had to wear at all times if we left the fourth floor where our room was. I gave it the name of "dignity." If I would get all the way to first floor or any floor between, I would put my hand on my head and say, "Oh! I forgot my dignity!" and dash up to the fourth floor to get it. We girls had fun together. Our work was to keep a room on the first floor clean and spotless: living room, big dining room, small dining room and two classrooms. After two years of deaconess training, we all took one year of nurses training. If we didn't like it, we could go on to something else such as institutional work or parish work. I was in my element as a nurse, but I did have a very hard time with the classes because they were so hard. I must admit, I wasn't very studious, but the practical work and bedside nursing kept me going. When I was a junior, I began to become very restless and discouraged with everything. I found fault with everything and rebelled against having my hair long and done up in a pug just like my mother's. I had very straight hair and would sneak down to the beauty shop to have a permanent in the front. This was very much against the rules, but I guess I looked so much better that not much was said as long as it was long and put in a "pug." I guess I was objecting to it being like Mama's. I wanted to take in a movie once in awhile and did this, too, but I didn't tell anyone. I also objected to wearing the garb everywhere I went. We could go downtown by ourselves if we wanted, but we had to wear the garb. I'm sure people thought I was a Catholic nun since seeing them was so common.

One thing the institute did do for me was to pay for my Nebraska driver's license, so I could drive the sisters' car to meetings all around Omaha. I enjoyed this so much and felt very privileged to do this. One night driving home from a church service with several sisters in the nine-passenger limousine, I had to drive up a hill to get to the deaconess home garage. Halfway up the hill something went wrong, and the car wouldn't go any further, so I rolled back down and parked it on the side of the street. It was late, and Sister Marie, who was the sister responsible for the cars, had gone to bed. I couldn't sleep all night for what she would tell me in the morning. I came downstairs and told her what had happened, and she said, "Oh! That's all right. We've been wanting to get a new one!" Was I relieved! That is just what they did, so I went on driving the cars. Besides the nine-passenger car, they had a coup (just one seat); that was used for no more than three people. That was fun to drive.

On Palm Sunday weekend in 1940 when I was a senior, six of us girls rented a car and went to Lindsborg, Kansas, for their annual performance of "The Messiah." I believe it was a Ford that we rented. Since I liked to drive, I did most of that. We went down on Saturday, stayed overnight with my classmate Lillian Bengston's family (Lillian was along, of course) and went to the concert Palm Sunday afternoon. After the concert we headed back to Omaha. When we got near Lincoln, Nebraska, I got a bit too close to the shoulder that was sloppy and wet. Even though the road was paved, the shoulder wasn't paved, so I went into a skid. I didn't lose total control of the car, but we did come to a stop by backing down the ditch. People passing by helped us by going into Lincoln and sending a wrecker. It cost one dollar to get pulled out, and we always said that was the dollar we threw down the ditch! I took the other girls right to the dorm, but I had to return the car, so I didn't get home until 5:00 a.m. Monday morning. I guess I took the streetcar home. It was an eventful trip but well worth it.

(Note: These concerts have been produced since the 1880's and are performed in the auditorium of Bethany College in Lindsborg. They are a community effort that I [Milan Bloom] participated in as a singer a short 24 years after May was there. I was in the Air Force at the time and was stationed near Salina, Kansas 24 miles to the north. The tradition was to present parts of Handel's "The Messiah" on Palm Sunday and Bach's "The Passion According to St. Matthew" on Good Friday).

I graduated from nurses' training on May 12, 1940, and passed the state boards much to the surprise of everybody including myself. I just couldn't stay there anymore, though, so I went to the superintendent of the institute, Dr. Chinlan, and told him I wanted to leave. He was not very happy to say the least. I had been there five years, gotten my nurse's training and now wanted to go. He had me sign a paper stating that I had to pay back the cost of my training. After I left, I sent them fifty dollars. I decided since I had worked there for five years, I had paid for my training in that way. With that, no more was said about it.

God was in control of my life even when I left Omaha on January 4, 1941. I had already applied for a job at the twenty-five bed Warroad Hospital. This hospital was brand new having been built in the spring and summer months of 1940 and opened in July of 1940. Edgar and my friend Helen (Gallant) Foster's daughter, Joyce, was the first baby to be born there that July. Alberta Atwater was the other registered nurse. We worked twelve-hour shifts: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., seven days a week with one-half day off each week if we were lucky. Alberta and I would change off every two weeks. When we were on night duty, we had to stay up after the twelve-hour shift and help in surgery. Dr. Leach did a lot of surgery. There were babies being born, and everything else to take care of. There were no nurses' aids when I started although we did get nurses' aids starting about July or August of that year. When I started dating Marvin Kling, I had to hire my own substitute nurse if I wanted to go out. I was very tired most of the time, so the times Marvin would take me to the city park, I would fall asleep on the park bench. Getting to work was no problem because Alberta and I lived at the hospital. I got married to Marvin in December of 1941. That following spring I quit working full-time at the hospital. I just couldn't take the hours anymore. I did stay available as a substitute nurse, of course.

As for the Deaconess Institute, it finally dissolved and moved out to Pennsylvania, and a new hospital campus was built about one and one-half miles north of Omaha. I was back in 1990 with Petra for our fiftieth anniversary. I was never so disappointed in all my life. All of those beautiful brick buildings- the deaconess home, the chapel, the home for the aged, the invalids' home, the occupational therapy building, the hospital, the huge auditorium-all torn down and removed. It was a wonderful part of my life that had been destroyed, so I never want to go back again. I guess this is progress, and we can't weep over it but just remember the wonderful and most happy five years I had and the wonderful nurses training I received which I used to the best of my ability for 56 years of my life.

Note: Our Aunt May was still working as a nurse part-time at the age of eighty-one. Also, she was on duty when her nephew, Milan, was born. She told Milan's mother, Mildred, "Boy is he an ugly baby!"
Comment added: Milan Bloom

7-17-1908 Florence Bloom 3-25-1995

Written by Marilyn (Holgerson) Johnson April 2, 2003

Above: Joe and Della, sons Roy and Leonard and daughters LaVerna and Florence. This picture taken before the house was moved in 1918. The teenager on our right with the big white ribbon above her left ear, is the Torsten Stenbraaten's daughter Elsie. Picture taken about 1914.

Marilyn and Thord Johnson family in Emerson, New Jersey, 2007.
Left side: Paul, Lissa, Sophie 8, Jake 11. Middle : Scott, Judi, Ryan 9 months, Maddy with Marianne 8. Right side: Laura, David, David Jr 10 years, Stephanie 11 years and Marilyn and Thord.

My mother was born in the Gustaf Blom house on Bloom Lake, near Center City, Minnesota. She was named after her mother, Della Florence Mattson. She left Warroad at the age of sixteen and went to work in Duluth, Minnesota, for a family named Cotton and since they had homes in both cities went with them back and forth from Duluth to New York as their cook.

My Mother met **Helge Holgerson** through a dear friend who also came from Duluth and worked for the Cottons. Thelma Palm arranged a blind date for Florence with Helge. My father, Helge was born in

Sweden on November 26, 1911. They were married in New York City and shared a four-room apartment with Helge's sister, Thyra, and her husband, Siggie Johnson.

Mother was due with their first child (me) in July of 1939 and wanted to go home to the farm in Warroad, Minnesota, to have the baby (going home to mother to have the first baby was quite common in those days – comment added, Milan Bloom). She wanted to be with her parents, Della and Joseph. She left New York City on May 15th and traveled three days by train. She arrived in Warroad on May 18, 1939, on the train from Crookston, Minnesota. This train was called the Galloping Goose and I was born premature two months early in Warroad on May 23, 1939. I was born with floppy ears, so Mother taped them back to hold them in place. This problem may have been the result of the cartilage being soft at birth. Dad came out in July for the christening and Grandma and Grandpa Bloom were the god-parents. In August, we all went back to New York in August. **Nancy Jean** was born October 9, 1947. She became Helge's "boy" and helped him with many chores. They lived in Astoria, L.I.C., New York until 1960 when they purchased their first house in Bayside.

1943 Florence and Marilyn.
This picture was taken by Anton Rose at Anton's home in New Jersey

Florence and Helge's home in Bayside, New York 1974

Florence's Granddaughter, (Nancy's daughter) Ginny Hillman Baldwin on Roy Bloom's Tractor (not the one Joe Bloom and Roy owned together). Picture taken , 1984.

Florence and Helge took trips to Minnesota for the Bloom reunions and trips to Warroad to visit the homestead, brother, sisters and friends. Ginny traveled twice to Warroad - once in 1984; David and Paul attended the 125th Bloom reunion. Florence and Helge were married fifty years on April 2, 1988. Her two sisters and three brothers were at the surprise anniversary party in Bayside, New York.

Florence's last trip to Warroad was for her eightieth birthday in July of 1988 at her brother, Roy's, farm. She attended church service on her birthday at Zion Lutheran Church in Warroad. In August of 1988 she suffered a heart attack. Her health became poor, she suffered two strokes and broke her hip in 1994.

She had five grandchildren who she taught to play rummy and dominoes. She was a big part of their lives. Florence loved life in her quiet, unassuming manner. She trusted in the Lord and was a devout

member of the Augustana Lutheran Church. She worked until she was sixty-five years old, loved entertaining and had many friends. She died fifty years to the day and almost to the time of her mother Della's death (March 25, 1945). At the time of her death Florence and Helge would have been married fifty-seven years the following Sunday.

The Most Beautiful Gardens Bloom in the Heart
Our Good-byes to Aunty May

Written by Muriel Brenhaug

Frank, Florence, LaVerna Leonard, May and Roy.

I knew that on Tuesday, May 1, 2001, Wes and I would be saying our "good-byes" to Aunty May. I was asking the Holy Spirit to give me wisdom, so that it would be a special time. I knew it would be difficult for us.

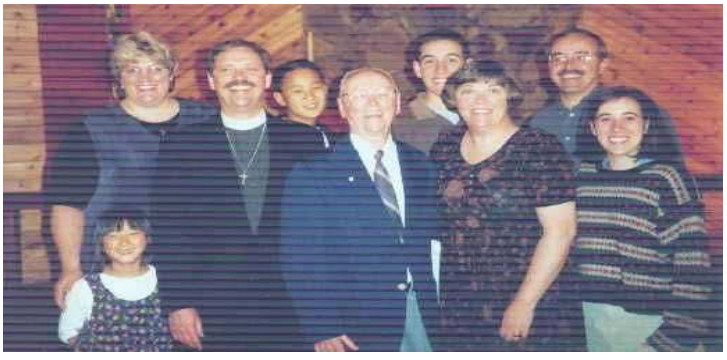
We had visited, and I had combed her hair and lotioned her hands. I then told May that we will be saying our good-byes. I asked her if I could share some scripture with her, and I opened the Bible to I Thessalonians 4, reading about the Lord's return. As I was ending this portion of the scripture where it says, "therefore encourage one another with these words", she repeated it with me! "What a great hope that is ours in Jesus", I said. She answered with a yes. "You're ready to go to Jesus, aren't you"? "Yes-Yes" she responded, and we hugged.

As Wes knelt beside her to pray, all three of us held hands. Wes thanked the Lord for Aunty May and for what she had meant to him as a child and adult. Our tears flowed as we spent this precious time together. Then May said, "Let's pray the Lord's Prayer", so we did. Then she wanted to repeat The Apostles Creed, so we did. Then she looked up at Frank (her youngest brother) and said, "Let's say the ___?____ prayer" (can't remember the name), so the two prayed that prayer. May recited it without any hesitation! What a precious time we had.

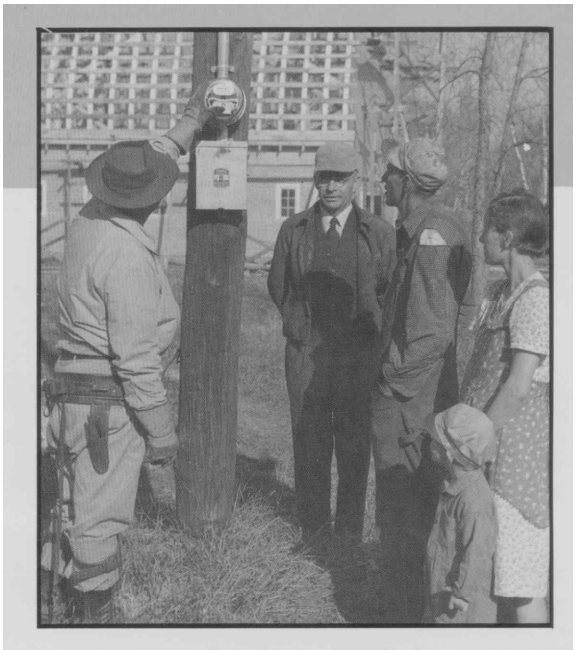
As Wes and I stood before her, we gave her our hugs and love and said our "good-byes". Walking out of her room, we both knew it was our last time here on earth with Aunty May.

Walking across the deck, I told Wes that when we get out on the sidewalk, I'm going to stop and wave to her. Standing right across from her on the other side of the deck, I waved and waved. Before long up came May's arm, and she waved to me!! "Thank you, Lord", I said and walked to Uncle Frank's car. - Written, in much love, Muriel Brenhaug

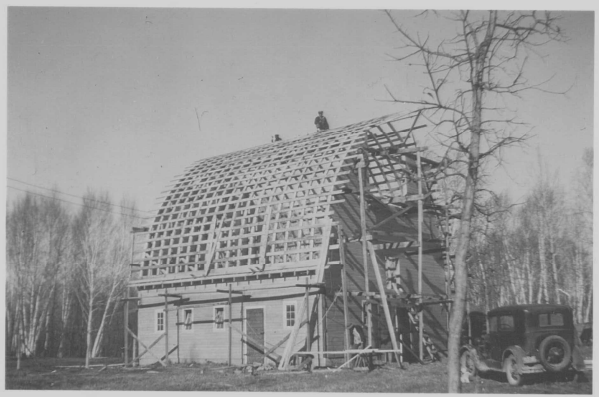
Frank and his wife, Ruth Kling.
Frank was Joe Bloom's youngest



Family of Frank Bloom – youngest son of Joseph Bloom:
Back row – left to right: Brenda (Mrs. Neil), Nathan, Mark, Michael
Front row: Alyssa, Neil, Frank, Eileen, Karen



Below is Roy Bloom's 3 to 4 year old barn getting the addition of a hay loft. Picture taken summer 1944. Most of the work was done by May (Bloom) Kling's husband, Marvin – Roy's brother-in-law.



In the spring of 1942 the Border Counties Generation Plant was being built in Warroad and Roseau Electric began setting poles on Project "A" south of Warroad with the help of the local farmers. Henry Jensen was the 'coordinator' at the time for Roseau Electric and bossed the line construction. In the spring of 1943 all work on the project was suspended by the U.S. Government because of the war. Work was resumed in the spring of 1944. Forrest Ammerman, eventual line superintendent, and construction manager August Bourque, eventual general manager, were hired in May of that year as the first full time employees of the cooperative. This historic picture was taken in November of 1944. Roy Bloom of Warroad was the first Roseau Electric member to have his farm energized. 289 more services were energized in 1944.

At left and up: November 1944. Child is Milan Bloom, 3 years old. Next is Milan's mother, Mildred, than Roy and the other two men are electrical specialists.

The left most tractor is the John Deere that Roy and his dad, Joe Bloom owned together and they bought in the spring of 1938. Also, it is the one that fell into the basement when the Bloom house was being built. The one on the right was a 1948 model and was bought used in 1961. Picture taken about 1961.

Story of Alice Elaine As told by herself

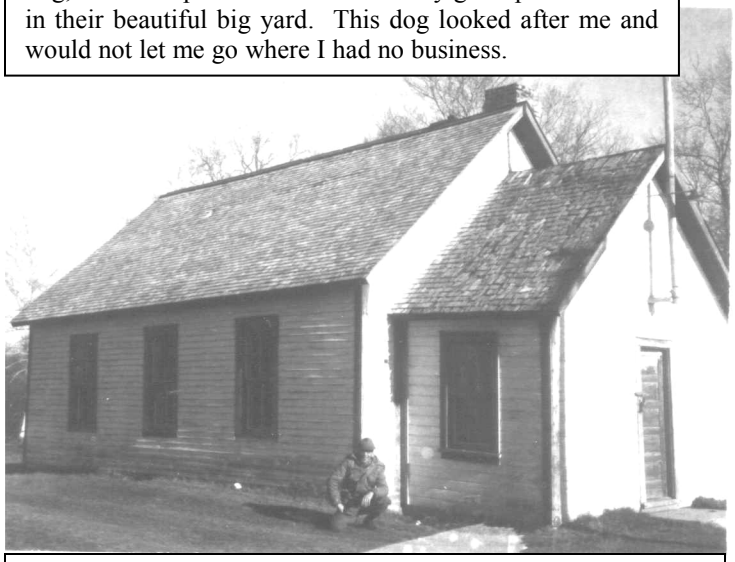
Alice, Brothers Milan and Wallace and Uncle Frank about 1949

I was born on July 8, 1937 We lived on my Grandma Della and Grandpa Joe Bloom's farm which was 2 1/2 miles south of Warroad, Minnesota. I don't know about my folks, but living there was fun for me since I was the only

My Grandma Bloom and my mother

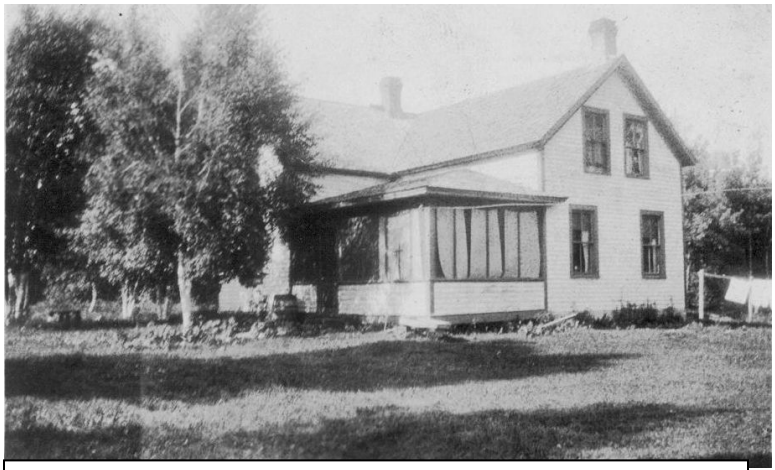
youngster. Naturally, my Grandparents and Dad's two brothers, Frank and Leonard, who were also living there at the time, doted over me. We moved to our own place a bit to the northeast in early spring 1941, but for my first two years of school, I attended the nearby one room school. The school was known as the "Bloom School" and it was only a few yards from my Grandparent's house. This was the same school that my Dad attended from about 1912 – 1920. In my early years, Dad's youngest brother, my Uncle Frank, was Sunday School Superintendent and he gave us a ride to Sunday school in his 1935 Ford – it had no brakes – not poor brakes - no brakes! Oh yes, and he drove it that way for years.

To the left is a picture of my uncle Leonard and the family dog, Pal. The picture was taken on my grandparent's farm in their beautiful big yard. This dog looked after me and would not let me go where I had no business.



The Bloom School that
My dad, his brothers and sisters cousin Barbara and I attended

I was 4 years old when my brother Milan was born and so my mother's sister, (and my name sake) Alice, came to stay with me while Mom was in the hospital. Her two brothers brought her from Gonvick, Minnesota and Aunt Alice quite naturally went to the car to say good-bye to them. When she went to the car, I stood crying my eyes out on the steps and they didn't know why. Well, I was upset because I thought Aunt Alice was leaving with them and then I would be left alone again - just as Mom had left me to go to the hospital. I was quite attached to Mom at that time and she had a hard time getting anything done without me being under foot.



My grandparents Home where I lived until I was 3 years old.

One spring, in the mid '40s, my cousin Barbara Brenhaug and I were getting the cows at milking time. She was in her early teens and I was possibly 8 – 10 or so. We had to cross the river on a log and the river was very high. Well, we both fell off that log into the drink. I had on a wool coat that spread out and acted like a life jacket and I started to scream that that I was drowning and couldn't swim. Barbara told me to be quiet and that I wasn't going to drown. Barbara did grab me and pull me to shore. I don't recall that Mom

and Dad were upset when they learned what happened, they were just glad that we were safe even though we had to walk home soaked to the skin. I didn't learn until recent years that Barbara was scared that my Mom would be mad at her for letting me fall in the river, not to mention, she couldn't swim either. One summer, Barbara was helping the Roy Bloom's put up hay. She was driving a team of horses pulling the rake and the horses were attacked by bees – natural the horses took off on a run and all Barbara could to was try to hang on – which she did and the horses headed to the barn (there is also a family tradition that says the same thing happened to Roy's wife Mildred).

When I was about 10 years old, I started taking piano lessons which meant I didn't know anything about church organs. One Sunday when I was in the 9th or 10th grade, Marty Roberts, the organist, asked me to fill in at the organ so she could take communion. It didn't go well. Well anyway, I thought this electric organ worked like the old pump organs so I found a pedal and pumped it – fortunately just once. Well, the pedal I hit controlled the volume and so the volume rose and then fell. Incidentally, I became the substitute organist after that.

I graduated from high school in Warroad, Minnesota with the class of 1955. That first fall after high school, I entered the St. Lukes Hospital School of Nursing in Duluth, Minnesota and graduated in September 1958.

Marvin Jones, Oct 1957

I met my husband, Marvin Jones, on January 1, 1957. He was stationed with the Air Force at the Duluth Air Base but had gotten sick and the Air Force doctor had the choice of sending him to Duluth's St. Mary's hospital or St. Lukes. When I came back from Christmas break, he was a patient on the floor where I was taking my training and was assigned to me as my patient.

In those days, student nurses were not allowed to date someone who had been their patient - but we did anyway didn't get caught. Also at that time, we weren't allowed to get married until six months before graduation although we could get engaged - which we did after a short time - and married on April 19, 1958. I even had to ask the School of Nursing director for permission to get married and it was then that I was asked how we met. I don't remember what my answer was but I couldn't mention that he had been my patient.

My education only cost $300 total for the three years – hard to believe. Even in today's money that is only $1,900. But in those days, money was tight so I still had to borrow some of that money. We were given bus tokens to take the city bus to the University in Duluth and a meal ticket to eat there. This was during the first six months of training when most of our classes were at the University of Minnesota – Duluth (UMD). I often walked to UMD and saved my bus tokens so I could ride the bus to nearby Proctor and spend weekends with my mother's two sisters and my cousins. After we started working in the hospital, we spent eight hours a day by working on the floor and/or in class. We weren't paid for our work so our education was really paid for by the floor work we did.

Alice on their '53 Chevy.
Duluth, Minnesota.

After getting married, Marv and I first lived in Duluth, Minnesota and Alene was born there in April of 1959. Then in the winter of 1960 the Air Force sent us to the Air Base in Madison, Wisconsin. Pulling our trailer to Madison didn't go without incident. No problem really - if you're not faint of heart. The roads were icy in Duluth (when aren't they?), and we had to wait for the sanding trucks to come so we could make it up the hill leaving Duluth. Also, when we got to Taylors Falls, Minnesota we were looking down at the long steep hill that goes through town. Well, by the time we got down that hill, we had no trailer brakes

because they had over heated on the hill. We had no choice, we had to go through the red light right in the middle of Taylors Falls. Well anyway we couldn't stop but by the time we got across the bridge over the St. Croix river and up the long hill into Wisconsin, the trailer brakes had cooled down and they worked again.

Our time in Madison was quite nice really and David was born there in March 1961. When Marv got off work we did many leisurely family things. I especially remember boating on the river there. After living in Madison for about 20 months, Marv was sent to Korea, at Thanksgiving time, 1961. He was gone for 11 months so I and our two children, Alene and David, moved to my folks farm home two miles south of Warroad, Minnesota. From the time we were married until we left Warroad, we had been living in an 8' by 33' house trailer, so every move meant pulling our house trailer behind our 1953 Chevrolet car. So, on my folks farm, we set the trailer up next to my folks house. I got a nursing job at the Warroad hospital and my mother watched my kids when I was at work. In those days the pay rate for nurses in Warroad got up to $2.00 per hour by the time I left. In today's money that would be $12.15. How times have changed. The head nurse was my Dad's youngest sister, May (Bloom) Kling.

My next oldest is David Loren Jones. David spent four years in the Marines and for a short time he was stationed in the Philippines where he met and eventually married his Filipino native bride Elvira Tumamak. David is one of the custodians in the Forest City public schools.

Finally, in late October 1962, my husband Marv returned from Korea and after 10 years of military service he left the Air Force. So the time had come to make our last move and that was to Forest City, Iowa. Permanently locating there made sense because that is where Marv was born and raised. Oh yes, that meant pulling our trailer house again with our '53 Chevy and again in the cold deep-freeze of winter. In order to get it out of my folks yard, Dad had to pull it to the road with his tractor. That trip was cold, I mean really cold because the heater in the car didn't work. After we got to Forest City, Marv found out that the heater fan had been turning backwards. To think we were traveling with those two little kids in approximately 30-degree below zero weather and the trip was nearly 500 miles. In Forest City, we lived in a trailer court on the north side of town until June 1963 and that's when we moved into our new home were I live today.

I spent most of my nursing career working as a night nurse at the nursing home in Forest City and Marv worked most of his years at the Winnebago motor home factory. He also became known as a good small equipment repairman. He worked on things ranging from home appliances to motorcycles. Also, he was one of those guys that never saw a tool he didn't like and need. I still have all of them.

We had five 5 children, ten grandchildren and, as of this writing, four great-grandchildren.

My oldest is Alene Kay Jones and she married Larry Meyering. Alene teaches 4th grade and lives in Baltimore, Maryland.

Their children are:

1. Christopher Meyering and he is married to Erin Paulis – children: Jessica Paige, Cassidy Rose, and Chloe Loren.
2. Shannon Meyering married Harold Keithley – child: Shiloh Nicole.
3. Eric Meyering – unmarried
4. Adam Meyering – unmarried

Next born was my son David. He married Elvira Tumamak from the Philippines.

Their children are:
Arlene May, Ryan Loren and Leah Marie.

Next born, was my daughter Julie Ann who married Robert Langerud. Julie drives one of those big yellow school buses and has worked with retarded children and adults in Forest City, Iowa. Their children are: Samantha Ann, Daniel Robert and Benjamin Lee.

In 1966 came a set of unexpected twin boys. Even after the delivery of the first baby, the doctor still didn't realize there was another one in there. So much for 1966 technology. Well anyway, we named them James Allen and Jerald Allen. These boys took electronics training in a technical school in Sioux City, Iowa and after that, James spent 11 years and Jerry spent 8 years in the Air Force. Today, they both live and work in the Cedar Rapids, Iowa area.

Back Row: Julie, David, Alene
Front Row: Jerry, Alice, Marvin, Jim

Alice's Granddaughter (Alene's daughter) Shannon – 5 years old – 1984. Next to Roy Bloom's tractor.

Story of Milan Bloom

Shelly Gorham and Milan Bloom Sept 19, 1964

Shelly, Dec 30, 1943 – Mar 2, 1991

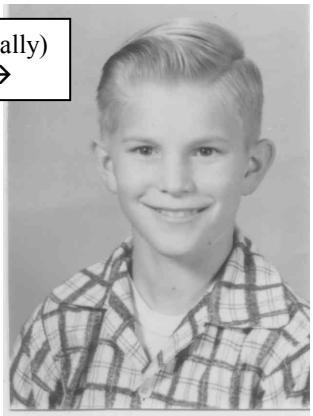
Milan, born Jul 20, 1941

So, a little about myself. I was born in the new Warroad, Minnesota hospital. I think the date was July 20, 1941. My dad's sister May (Bloom) Kling was a nurse at the hospital at that time and she was on duty when I was born. Well, anyway, she was in the delivery room and when I popped out, she said to my mother, she said **"Gee, is he ugly!"** Well, I suppose she could have found something positive to say.

Below: Milan in the wagon with Sister Alice

I was named after a high school football player by the name of **Milan** Olson. My dad liked the kid and so he pinned that name on me. I would have preferred to be named anything but Milan - maybe Mortimer or Edgar – any of those make fine baby boy names.

Brother Wallace (Wally) Born Jun 7, 1944 →



I was raised on a farm exactly two miles south of the edge of town, along County Highway 5. Warroad was a town of about 1,500 at that time. Well the farm, oh yes the farm meant tractors, axle grease, gasoline, exhaust fumes - you know, the good stuff. We also had dairy cows - didn't like them much because the more you fork it to 'em the more you shovel it out.

The most fun my brother Wallace and I had during our 5 - 10 years of age period was helping (well we thought we were helping) our Uncle Marvin (Aunt May's husband) "rig up" mechanical contraptions on his farm – his farm was only 1/2 mile further south. We also had two older cousins from Roseau who stayed there a lot and they had more ingenuity than Brother Wally and I did when it came to having farm fun - like sailing down the river in a leaky stock tank or pulling out stumps with a fence stretcher. Then there was the time that Cousin Roger figured out how to touch the electric fence while passing the shock onto me. Later, when I was old enough, I really enjoyed doing all of the typical tractor things like baling hay, plowing - you know, the usual. I especially liked hauling grain with our fast, very, very fast Farmers Union CO-OP tractor.

Left to right: Wally Bloom, my cousin Dick Bloom and Milan Bloom. Cute little buggers, don't you think?

I was in the school band from sixth grade through 12th and really enjoyed that. I played the Baritone (or Euphonium - about the same thing). Our biggest marching band trips included marching, at least twice, in the annual Minneapolis *Aquatennial* celebration, and the *Days of '76* parade in Deadwood, South Dakota. One time, our band even provided half-time entertainment for the Winnipeg, Manitoba professional football team. Big stuff for a small school like mine - only 42 in my senior class. I was in two class plays - one in my junior year and the other as a senior.

L to R: Dad Roy Bloom, Shelly, Milan, Mother Mildred, spring 1963.

And then of course there was that boys quartet I was in for a couple of years. Our big tune was *"Mosquitoes are a Humming on a Honey Suckle Vine"*. I was a reasonable student and particularly liked math and science. Of course, our high school principle gave all of us 8th graders a test, and based on that, he told me I should avoid math and science. Good thing I ignored him. I took similar tests years later to see if I could succeed in the computer world. Same thing, I was advised to stay away from computers. As was my custom, I ignored that advice too and earned my living with computers for 26 years.

Son Mark's family.
Back row L to R: wife Kristen, Mark, Andrew.
Front: Samuel and Joshua.

After high school (class of 1959), I attended the University of Minnesota - Duluth (UMD) and while there I enrolled in the Air Force Reserve Officers Training (ROTC) program. In 1963, I graduated with a Bachelors degree in Business and Economics and was also commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Air Force. During my four-year Air Force tour, I was stationed in Salina, Kansas; Labrador, Canada and finally here in Colorado Springs, Colorado. I was a Captain when I was discharged in 1967 and a week later I had a job as a civilian with the Air Force - right here in Colorado Springs. I must have liked working for the Air Force because I stayed with it until I retired in 1998.

I lost my wife, Shelly, to cancer on March 2, 1991. That, of course was a hard time for me but even more so for my two kids. Sandi was in her senior year at

the University of Northern Colorado and Mark was in the last semester of his Masters of Business Administration (MBA) program. After taking two years off from college, Sandi returned to school here in town and enrolled in a nursing program. She graduated with a nursing degree in 1997 and so now she has a BA degree in Psychology and a BS degree in Nursing and is a registered nurse. Got to hand it to her, she spent seven years as a full time student after high school. Sandi now works in a Denver, hospital and Mark works for an investment company in Denver. Sandi is unmarried and Mark is married and has three boys.

In our early years as a family, we traveled with our camping trailer and went to California at least three times and also Oregon, Glacier National Park, Yosemite National Park, Disneyland and then every other year, back to see family in Minnesota.

Daughter Sandi, Graduating from Nursing school. Spring 1997

I am including, what Sandi wrote in this book, with the hope that it applies to many of our daughters and fathers. Daughters, it's my hope that you have already told your father how important he is to you. Then again maybe, just maybe, if you haven't, Sandi's words might help.

My Father

From this beautiful couple was born a daughter, Sandra, the second child. After this child was born, the family was complete. This daughter grew up a little rebellious, the genes of strength and resilience which, in the long run, resulted into a woman who was determined and would not settle for less than she deserved. These characteristics blossomed out of unconditional love from her parents. After the loss of her mom, whom she loved, her family pulled their strength together and did what they could do for eachother which was mostly just being there, and allowing the connection of a family to show through and provide support.

The center of this family now, is you, my father, my wonderful supportive, generous father, whom I would not have been able to achieve what I have in these last several years without. I will never be able to repay you for the love and support you have given me to get through nursing school. You probably figured that nursing was in my blood, so you needed to do anything to help me become one. Or, you are just the most special man that is on this planet. I think it is both. I will forever dedicate my success to you, my father, my wonderful, supportive, generous father.

I Love You,
Sandra

In more recent years I have kept busy by singing in a 120-voice Christian music community choir, a barbershop chorus, a small barbershop group, and of course church choir. I also like to travel, write family stories and I keep up the Bloom and Brænden genealogy. This family story thing takes most of my time and I really enjoy it.

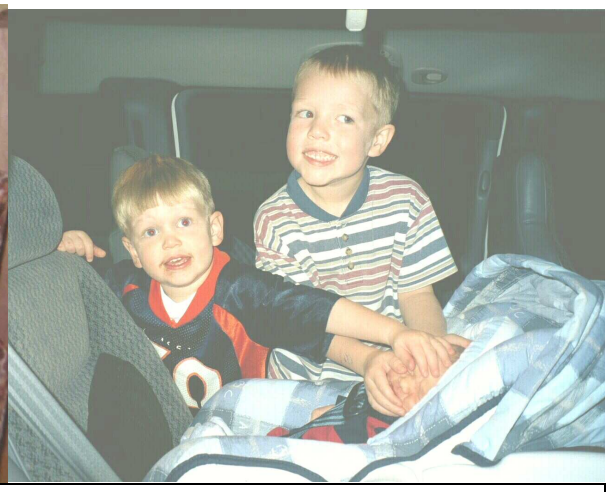
I also, have a very special (well, special to me) antique collector farm tractor. It is a 1951 Farmers Union CO-OP model NO. 3. Only 1,250 of these tractors were made after W.W.II and only 250 were built in 1951. I grew up with one of these on my dad's farm and farm boys will tell you that the tractor they drove when young is what they want as a collector item. This tractor is so rare that I had to go to an auction sale near Duluth, Minnesota to get it. That was an 1,100 mile trip. After I retired, in 1998, I was going to live in Rollag, Minnesota during the summer and get a significant tractor collection. Well, I had the collection - my dad's 1948 John Deere and two Farmer's Union CO-OPs, but I didn't like living such a life of isolation, so I gave my three tractors away and returned home to Colorado in August of 1998. I keep the tractor I have now in Northern Colorado on my partner's six acres. We make some hay with our old equipment.

My Grandson, Andrew, explaining to his brother Josh, the fine points of my tractor. October 2, 2004.

Milan, Shelly, Mark and Sandi. Nov 8, 1980

Below: Lt. Milan Bloom and wife Shelly leaving Labrador, Canada for the island of Newfoundland by DC-3. Sept 1966.

Mark and Sandi



Joshua and Andrew taking Samuel home from the hospital

Above left: Andrew explaining, to his brother, Josh, how the gearshift works. What I had done was explain all of this stuff to Andrew. Then, later, Andrew replicated my discussion with his brother Josh. Yes, Andrew really was explaining this stuff to his brother. It was fun to listen to the conversation between these two boys. October 2, 2004.

Above: Milan, son Mark and my Grandson Andrew on my current tractor.

Above: Milan, son Mark and in front from the left:
Samuel, Joshua and Andrew

Wallace (Wally) Bloom
Son of Roy Bloom
Grandson of Joseph Bloom

Wally and Sara Bloom's family:
Back row: Kevin (b. 1970), Steven (b. 1977), Derek (b. 1973)
Front Row: Kevin's wife, Shelly; Sara, Wally, Derek's wife, Erin

←Derek's boy, Taylor Zachary, born June 14, 2004

Derek's boy, Brendan Thomas, born April 24, 2002 →

←Kevin's girl, Macyn Paige, born September 3, 2001

Kevin's boy, Jack Matthew, born April 21, 1998 →

← Kevin's boy, Breck Patrick, born May 12, 2005

Wallace Bloom Story
As told by himself

I was born on June 7, 1944 and am the third child born to Roy and Mildred (Branden) Bloom. Alice Elaine (b. 1937) is the oldest and Milan (b. 1941) is the second child. Our home was 2 miles south of Warroad, Minnesota on a beautiful piece of property with birch trees and a creek nearby. For a brief period we lived on the "home place" where my dad grew up. This was while our new house was being built which was finished in 1950. I attended Warroad School and graduated in 1962. Music was my talent and I played in the band and sang in the choir. Singing was my specialty and it would play a roll throughout my life. Our family attended Zion Lutheran Church and the church was very influential on our family. All of us sang on the church choir (except Mom).

Singing was central to what I consider the most pivotal point in my life. What happened was, I was participating in a music competition and the judge was from the University Of North Dakota (UND) in Grand Forks, North Dakota. After the competition, he asked me to come to UND to be a part of the choral groups. I was a senior in high school at that time. So I changed my plans (I was registered to attend the University of Minnesota at Duluth) and I entered UND in the fall of 1962. During my time at UND I sang with the Varsity Bards men's chorus (served as student director my senior year), and the University Chorus mixed choir. I graduated from UND in 1967 with a degree in business and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Air Force.

I served in the Air Force from 1967 to 1971 and was stationed at Randolph AFB near San Antonio, Texas. I was assigned to Headquarters, Air Training Command as an Education and Training Officer. While in San Antonio I sang with the San Antonio Choral Society. It was during my time with the Air Force that I married Sara Ann Haas. That was on June 23, 1968. Sara was from New Rockford, North Dakota and the wedding took place in the Methodist Church in New Rockford. Roger Schauer was my best man. I met Sara while attending UND.

We lived on Randolph Air Force Base and our first child, Kevin Patrick, was born while living there. Kevin was born on February 23, 1970 at Brook Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston there in San Antonio. I was discharged from the Air Force, on June 15, 1971 and so Sara, Kevin and I moved back to North Dakota.

I began work at the University of North Dakota on August 1st 1971. My first job was as the Manager of the Parking Office. In the following years, I would serve as Manager of the UND Vending Service, Manager of the UND Golf Course, and I finally became the Director of the Chester Fritz Auditorium. I plan on retiring from UND in 2006 and this will complete a 35-year career at the University.

The highlights of my time in Grand Forks include two more boys being born. Derek Brandon on September 16, 1973 and Steven Matthew on November 30, 1977. Kevin married Michelle Driscoll on November 25, 1995 and then Derek married Erin Johnson on May 31, 1997. Grandchildren include Jack (b. 4-21-1998) and Macyn (b. 9-3-2001), both children of Kevin and Michelle, and Brendan (b. 4-24-2002) and Taylor (b. 6-14-2004), both children of Derek and Erin.

Kevin and Shelly live across the Red River in East Grand Forks, Minnesota where Jack is in first grade and has the typical six-year-old missing front teeth. "All I Want for Christmas are My Two Front Teeth" is his song! Macyn is three and stays home with her mom, Shelly. Another baby will join this family in May. Derek and Erin live in Maple Grove, Minnesota and enjoy the Minneapolis, Minnesota area and all the activities it offers. Brenden is two and ½ now and little brother Taylor is six months. Both children are charming and keep Erin occupied while she takes a year off from teaching. Steve is unmarried and just accepted a job in Minneapolis.

Of course singing continues to be a part of my life. I have always sung in my church choirs. The Wesley United Methodist church choir in the early years and the Calvary Lutheran church choir in the later years. During the early years in Grand Forks, Sara played the piano or organ and I sang for countless weddings and funerals. Sara still plays for weddings and funerals. During the 1990's and 2000's, I have been singing with the Grand Forks Master Choral.

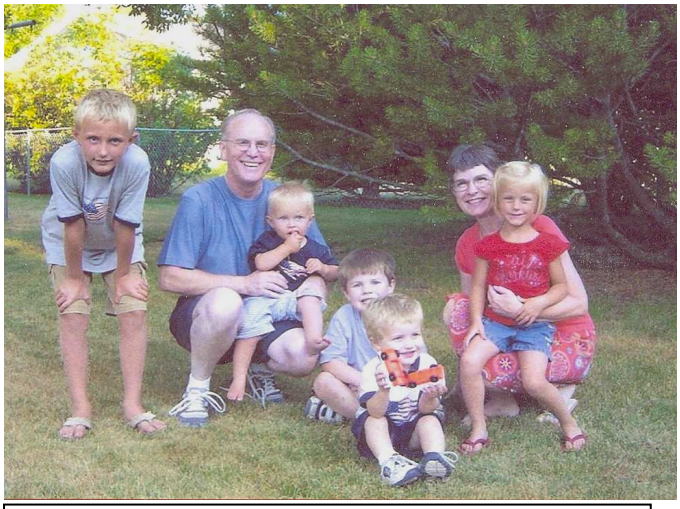
Sara and I share an interest in music and this has been a common thread that has blessed us many times over. Sara has been an accompanist and organist her entire life and is a piano teacher and she has enhanced her education by earning a Master of Music degree from UND in May of 1996.

Well, this is my story up to now and I am looking forward to many more adventures.

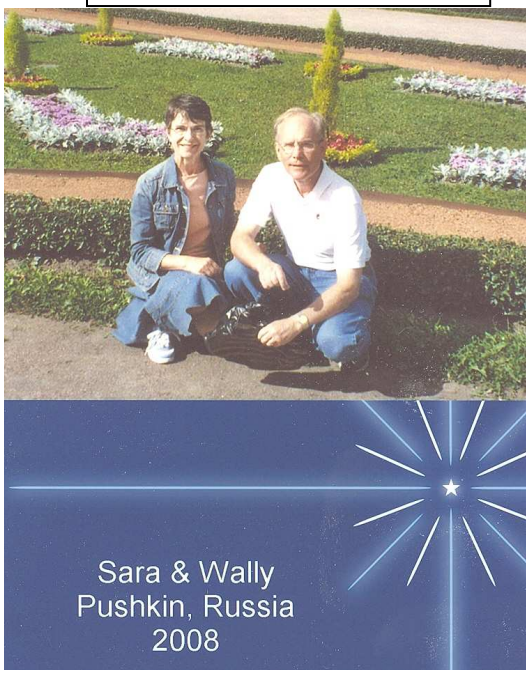
Wallace Bloom, Grand Forks, North Dakota, January 8, 2005

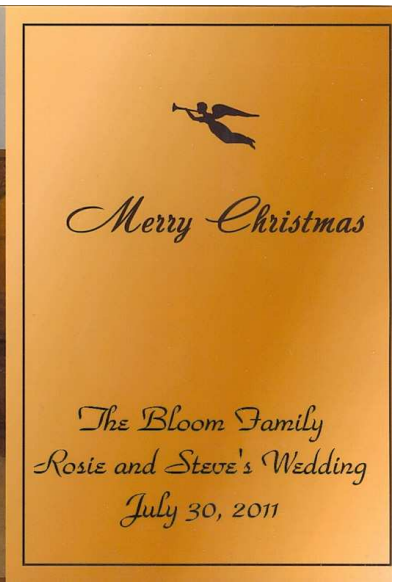
Left to right: My brother Milan,
Our Uncle Frank Bloom, me and dog Pal.
Picture taken 1950 - 1951

Me at about six. Cute little bugger, don't you think?



Left to Right: Jack, Wally, Breck, Brenden, Taylor, Sara, and Macyn - All Blooms





Joseph and Della Bloom's Family

Frank G. Bloom (son of Joseph Bloom) and his 1935 Ford . Notice, his lady is in pants. Think about it!

Grandma Della Bloom and Alice - 1938

Alice on her second birthday

Richard Bloom's family (Son of Leonard and Grandson of Joe Bloom):
Left to right:
Michael, baby Hahn Robert, Michael's wife Katy,
Father Richard's daughter Catherine,
Son David's bride Kathie, the groom David, groom's mother Jane, father Richard and Jane's father .

Roy, Mildred and Alice Bloom about 1938

Above: May Kling (third row down, second from the right)

Joe Bloom Grandchildren and spouses. Picture taken in North Dakota at the home of Lucille's daughter, Julie Gemmill, July 2009.
Backup row - left to right: Wesley Brenhaug, Buzz Ward, Milan Bloom, Barbara Brenhaug Thompson, Roger Brenhaug. **Front row – left to right:** Muriel Brenhaug (Mrs. Wesley), Lucille Brenhaug Ward, Alice Bloom Jones, Diane Brenhaug (Mrs. Roger)

This letter is from May Bloom Kling to Florence Bloom Holgerson, both daughters of Joseph Bloom.

Warroad, Minn.
October 15, 1934

My Dear Florence, "Jesus Only"

There is no temptation taken you but such a man can bear: but God is Faithful who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation make also the way of escape, that ye may be able to endure it." I Cor 10:13

What a marvelous verse this is and so full of meaning and comfort. Here God shows us that He is with us even in dire temptation and will make an escape for us. But this He does under only one circumstance and that is that we come to Him when these temptations come. Of course if we do not come to Him but just let Satan get the stronghold of our hearts, God cannot do anything because He never forces any one but deals with His infinite love.

At last we have a little breathing space, and I have a few minutes to write to you now before is dinner ready.

Roy and Mildred just came a few minutes ago. They and Olaf's went to Gonvick Saturday morn. As Lennie said, Roy went down to meet the folks. Ha! Mildred is getting along fine except that Friday morning she steamed her right hand (on top) and has an open sore about the size of a quarter or larger. She surely has luck!!

Well, here I'm at it again. I laid this writing aside as I had to help set table for dinner etc. Mary decided to write too and we will send the letters together.

Mil and I went over to see Olga Green this afternoon and Mother went to town. Mildred is going to start working at Greens on Wed. Olga wants her now but she could not because of her burn.

I suppose you haven't heard that Mr. and Mrs. Paw have a baby girl. She weighs 6 lb. & 12 oz. Her name is Loretta Jean. I was up to see her Saturday and yesterday. The baby is just a doll. Mother was in to see her today.

Mildred says to tell you hello! So do all the rest. How is Vic? Hope all right. And the same to you.

(Mary and Len are having a contest in eating onions. Are we having some laughs!!)

I suppose you heard about Charlotte Knudson's death. They just had a private funeral at the grave because of diphtheria. They had a memorial funeral for her yesterday. I played for the congregation also Olga Floe's solo.

The morning after Ruth Stenbraaten has a new beau (please don't faint). His name is Jim Murphy and are they ever sweet on each other. She gave him the cold shoulder one Sat. night but everything is rosy now. He is a friend of Dahlquist's. That is how Amy got to know Ruth.

Amy and I are still as good chums as ever and more so. She surely is a keen kid, we have so much fun together. Dahlquists were out for a Sunday dinner a couple of weeks ago. Clara K. and I are hitch-hiking to Williams a week from Sat. to see Ethel Ohman (sic). We will stay till Sun. and come back with Ericksons.

The Ladies Aid had a chicken supper Sat. night and took in $85.10.

Well, dear I must close now and soak my corn. Mary gave me some corn salve to put on.

Bye-bye dear and please write soon.

Heaps of Love, May Axelina

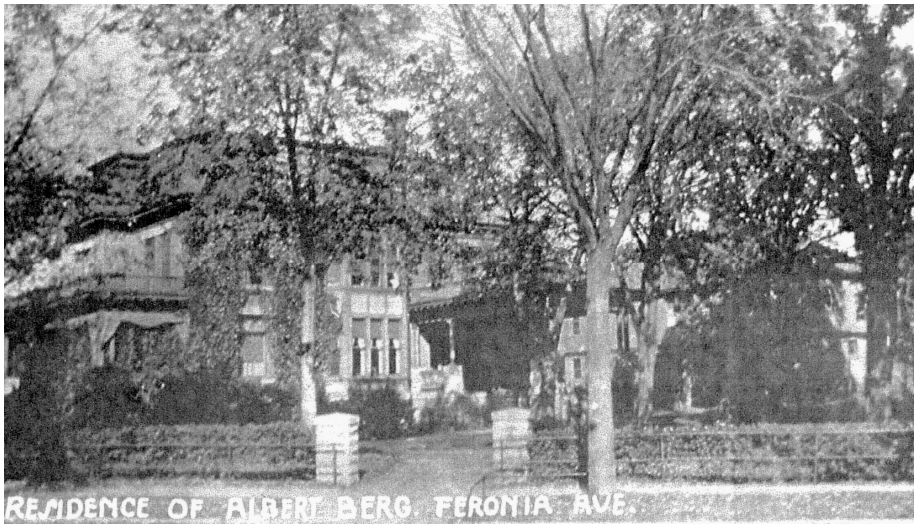
Alice Bloom Jones, Orval John Alfred Bloom (family of Alfred) and Milan Bloom - March 2004, Lake Havasu City, Arizona.

1861 Albert Berg 1920

Albert was the son of Anna-Maria Berg (b. 1836) by Anna's first husband Jonas Berg who died from Civil War wounds on October 15, 1863. He and Israel Jonason (ancestor of August Bloom's family) were mustered into the Company D Third Regiment on October 22, 1861. After the war Israel and Anna-Maria married and had several children to include Ida and Helen; this made Albert their half-brother. Ida married Joseph's brother, August; Helen married the oldest Bloom brother, Carl (Charlie).

Albert was a banker and in insurance. He was educated in public schools in Chisago County, Minnesota, Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota (1877-1878) and Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota (1878-1880). He was on the staff of the Daily Argus Fargo Dakota Territory (1880-1884); teacher in the public schools of Chisago County, Minnesota (1884-1886); Registrar of Deeds Chisago County (1886-1894); Secretary of State of Minnesota (1895-1901); Minnesota legislature regular session and special session 1901; special session 1902; from the 63rd legislative district comprising Marshall, Kittson and Roseau counties; cashier and director of the State Bank of Warroad, Minnesota (1904-1906) and organizer of the Security State Bank of Baudette, Minnesota in February of 1906. He was its cashier from the time of organization until January of 1907 when he was elected president. He was the first mayor of Spooner, Minnesota (across the river from Baudette), delegate to the National Republican Convention and member of the Masonic fraternity (thirty-second degree Mason, member of the grand lodge of the order of Minnesota and it's grand marshal in 1910, past grand prelate, and past grand vice-chancellor of the Knights of Pythias for the domain of Minnesota). Since 1890 he held fraternal relationships with the order of Elks, St. Paul Lodge No. 59, K of P, BPOE, Foresters, Samaritans and Norden Club. He was also "Reading Clerk" at the Republican National Convention of 1908.

It was during this time that he became interested in Warroad, Minnesota. In 1899 he staked out his own 160-acre claim on the south bank of the Warroad River right next to where Jack Marvin lives today. He became interested in Warroad because, during his time in office, the Roseau County petitioned the governor to annex 15 Beltrami County townships. This approximately 540 square mile annexation was finalized on February 11, 1896. It was Albert who signed at least some of the papers. Albert most likely knew that Mr. Medicraft of the



Residence of Albert Berg, 1879 Feronia Ave, St. Paul, Minnesota

state legislature believed that if Warroad could just get a railroad, fishing on the lake would become as important as Lake Superior's. Albert's house in Warroad is still occupied by the Joe Nelsons .

Albert divorced his first wife, **Anna Christine Peterson (Pehrsson)** on November 18, 1897. Anna was the daughter of Gustav Collin's daughter and Carolina's sister, Johanna. *(Anna's husband, Albert was a half-brother to Helen and Ida (Jonason) Bloom. Helen and Ida were the wives of Carl and August Bloom. Confused yet? Comment added Milan Bloom.)*

(Note: In one of Anton Rose's writings, he got so focused on Albert and Anna's divorce that he incorrectly reported it as the first one in the Bloom family. What is interesting about his comment is the fact that, although Anna was indeed a blood cousin of the Bloom's, she wasn't a member of the Bloom family. Of course, in those days, divorce was so uncommon and considered so shameful, that Anton focused totally on the divorce and forgot that Anna wasn't a Bloom. Comment added by Milan Bloom)

Albert was 6'2" tall and weighed over 300 pounds. When he went into politics he sang and danced at rallies. Comment *added by Milan Bloom*. At one time a flimsy stage gave way, and he wound up in the first row! It was said that his humor and talent helped him become Minnesota's Secretary of State. He became Secretary of State at the age of thirty-three (1-7-1895 to 1-6-1901). He had a beautiful mansion in St. Paul, and his wife, Lillian, was a lovely and sophisticated lady of French descent.

Albert served as Warroad's Treasurer in 1901; in 1904 he was on the school board, and he was Warroad's second mayor (1904-1905). By the fall of 1899 he had a house built on his claim and moved in with his bride, **Lillian Daly** from St. Paul. They had been married on August 3, 1899. She was a daughter of one of the oldest families in St. Paul. Their wedding trip was a tour of New York. After they returned, they moved to Warroad. Their house was large by Warroad standards.

On February 16, 1906, Joseph G. Guimond, a single man, was served notice that his mortgage company was foreclosing on his 160-acre farm. Half of this farm was adjacent and directly west of the Joseph Bloom farm (next to the Bloom School). The other half of Guimond's farm bordered the northwest corner of Joseph's property. Albert bought it for $150.30 (equal to $2,953 in 2003). Thirty-four years later in 1940, the eighty acres of the Guimond farm located in section 6 became the property of Joseph's youngest son, Frank. Four years after that in 1944, the other half of the Guimond farm in section 7 plus all of the Bader place became the property of Joseph's youngest daughter, May, and her husband Marvin Kling. This is the northern edge of what became Kling's farm.

Albert had to take Mr. Guimond to court to get him off the farm although the farm had been his for fifteen months. Mr. Guimond did have one year from the date of the auction to get his farm back. Mr. Guimond lost and had to pay seven dollars in court costs (equal to $138 in 2003).

By the fall of 1906 Joe sold their Cedarbend farm for $1,500 (equal to $29,472 in 2003) to Joe's brother, Frank. Frank's estate owned it until 1936.

In 1916 Albert Berg and his wife, Lillian, were residents of 1879 Feronia Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota. They sold their 320-acre farm for $16,000 (equal to $260,110 in 2003) to George Eygabroad who was also from St. Paul. This acreage consisted of the acreage Albert bought plus what had been the George Bader homestead in 1904. In 1940 George Eygabroad sold 80 acres of his 1916 investment to Joe's youngest son, Frank. Then in 1944 he sold the rest to Joe's youngest daughter, May and husband Marvin Kling. Frank's parcel was in the southeast corner of Moranville section 6 and adjacent to his dad's farm at Joe's most northwestern corner boundary. The Kling's parcel was directly west and adjacent to Joe on the other side of the school grounds. Frank paid one thousand dollars (equal to $12,657 in 2003). Eygabroad's original 1916 investment dropped in value by eighty percent when he sold to Joe's youngest kids in the 1940's.

Albert Berg's house in Warroad, Minnesota as seen today.

After Albert's death, Lillian lived at the Leamington Hotel in Minneapolis. Marjorie Johnson Svdberg and her mother, Mildred Bloom-Johnson, (daughter of August) would take the streetcar downtown to visit Lillian

while Marjorie's father Reuben Johnson was working. It was a real treat to go into such fancy digs! It was in Lillian's suite that Marjorie had her first "BLT" (bacon, lettuce, tomato sandwich); the kitchen even cut off the crusts! BLT's were a favorite summer lunch for the Svedberg family, and Marjorie sure did love them. May Bloom Kling (Joseph's daughter) and her husband, Marvin, bought the former Berg farm in the late 1944.

The following is an article which originally appeared in the Roseau, Minnesota newspaper and was written prior to 1900. One star of the story is Albert Berg, half brother to Helen and Ida (Jonason) Bloom. The other star, is a politician by the name of Eddy (last name unknown). Eddy wrote the story himself.

"Albert Berg, Formerly Secretary of State, accompanied me a great deal through the northern part of the state. He was a wonderful singer and delighted the audiences by singing ballads in both English and Swedish. When it was announced on the program that Albert Berg would sing, the house was always packed.

He was with me one evening at a meeting held in Badger. At that time it was considered essential to have a platform for the speaker on which all the party candidates for state, legislative and county offices, together with other prominent persons were seated. This meeting was held in a vacant building. Before the meeting started, a platform about three feet high was erected of boards and supported by two-by-sixes. Sometime during the day before the meeting was held, some miscreant secretly entered the building and sawed each one of these supports, leaving only about a quarter of an inch to sustain the platform.

The hall was packed; fifteen to twenty people were seated on the platform. The chairman, who was a lightweight, opened the meeting by stating that the meeting would be opened with a Swedish song by Albert Berg, 'which you will be glad to hear'. Huge Albert Berg briskly stepped forward and began to sing. At one point in the chorus, he always emphasized the line by violently stomping his foot; when he brought down the 300 pounds of Swedish flesh, bone and muscle on that platform, it collapsed like a paper box stepped on by an elephant. Platformers, including the organist, were catapulted into the audience. The organ fell on the village school teacher pinning her to the floor where she lay screaming that she was killed.

The organist landed on her head in the wood box, her legs waving in the air like signals of distress. Albert Berg was wedged under a seat and had to be pulled out before he could get on his feet. I was projected into the lap of a large, fat Norwegian woman who gazed at me with a look that seemed to say, 'you are very familiar for a man who has not even been introduced'. The rest of those who were on the platform were scattered around the hall in attitudes of more or less picturesqueness. A near panic was averted by Captain Stokes who had charge of the meeting, leaping on a chair and shouting, 'Everything is all right; this is part of the entertainment! Nobody is hurt!' "

Joe and Della Bloom's Zion Lutheran Church (Augustana Synod) in Warroad, Minnesota. All of Joe Bloom's children were confirmed, but not necessarily baptized here. So too were Roy and Leonard Bloom's children. The Congregation moved to a new Warroad Village location and building in 1957 or 1958.

Above is the 1923 Confirmation Class, Zion Lutheran Church, Warroad, Minnesota. Joe Bloom's daughter, Florence is in the back row sixth from left. Albert Berg's house is in the background on the right behind the cars. He had long since moved away from Warroad and died in 1920.
I (Milan Bloom) attended this church until I was about 16 years old. This building is still there.

Joe Bloom must have lived in this log building before he married. It became an animal shelter after the 1904 house was built. Picture is dated 1912.

Chapter 13 Descendants of Mrs. Sophia Blom Jonasson

13 Sep 2007

1. Ms Sophia Blom (b.29 Sep 1833;d.5 Apr 1895)

sp: Mr. Johan Magnus Jonasson (m.23 Feb 1876;d.1913)

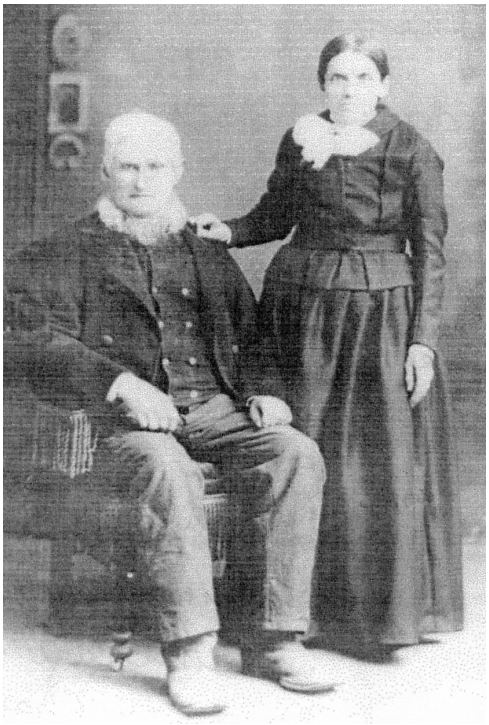
- 2. Mr. Charles Johnson Burns (b.1872;d.1942)
  - sp: Ms Alice Ericsson (b.1878;d.1967)
    - 3. Mr. Floyd Johnson Burns (b.1902)
      - sp: Ms Ruth Johnson
        - 4. Mr. Barton Burns
        - 4. Mr. Bruce Burns
    - 3. The Reverend Lyle C. Johnson Burns (b.1904)
      - sp: Ms Eva Mae Lorens
        - 4. Ms Kathryn Burns
        - 4. Ms Karen Burns
        - 4. Mr. Charles Burns
        - 4. Mr. David Burns
    - 3. Mr. Leland Johnson Burns (b.1909)
    - 3. Ms Vivian Johnson Burns
      - sp: Mr. James Benninger
        - 4. Ms Patricia Benninger
    - 3. Ms Genevieve Johnson Burns (b.1906)
      - sp: Mr. Vernon Huseth
        - 4. Ms Cynthia Huseth
        - 4. Ms Nancy Huseth
- 2. Ms Anna Johnson (d.1929)
  - sp: Mr. Anton Olsen (d.1931)
    - 3. Ms Viola Olsen
    - 3. Ms Florence Olsen
    - 3. Ms Hazel Olsen
    - 3. Mr. Helmer Olsen
      - sp: Edith (b.1911)
        - 4. Mr. John Olsen
    - 3. Mr. Arnold Olsen
    - 3. Ms Estell Olsen
- 2. Mr. William Johnson (d.14 Feb 1940)
  - sp: Ms Olivia Osberg (m.9 Apr 1914)
    - 3. Ms Sylvia Johnson (b.17 Oct 1915)
      - sp: Mr. Donald Babb (m.9 Jun 1951;d.Sep 1996)
        - 4. Diane Babb{A}
          - sp: Mr. Tom Connors
            - 5. Dan Babb (b.1981)
            - 5. Laura Babb (b.1988)

Johannes Blom 1826 - 1904

Johannes Blom was Gustaf's brother who was born in Sweden and died in Urosa. He was the only sibling not to come to America. Gustaf sent for his brother, but Johannes' wife would not let him come. He was a goldsmith in Tingare (which meant he worked on all of the yellow metals, not just gold). He became a clock maker (urn maker or jeweler). He lost his property and later moved to Urosa. He married, and they did not have children

9-29-1833 Sophia Blom 4-1895

Sophia had a twin sister, Sara, who lived less than one month. She was a school teacher in Ostra Thorsas, and she taught four years in Tingsryd. She was like her mother-small, dark and active. Her voice was high-pitched and unpleasant; her speech was rapid and jerky. She had a quick and keen mind. The home was not neat nor orderly. She and her sister, Ingred, remained in Sweden to look after Carl until he died in 1866. Then they came to America. She married **Johan Magnes Jonasson** on February 23, 1876. They had one son, **Charles.**



Johan (Jonasson) Johnson

Sophia (Blom) Jonasson

1870

Johan Magnes Jonasson sang Swedish ballads and sold printed copies of them. In the early days he voluntarily carried mail and along with it, snuff and some other matter. He was the community courier and the oldest U.S. postmaster in both years and service. He was known as "vise Johan" and "postmaster Johnson". Their first home was on an island in Big Marine Lake. They later moved to Scandia where he was instrumental in the post office opening. He was a genial old gentleman full of droll, Swedish tales and songs.

Charles (Charlie) Johnson Burns was born in 1872 and died in 1942. He was a merchant who was first associated with Frank Lake in Scandia and later with Luvree in Center City. He made his home in Center City as a farms products broker. He married **Alice Erickson** (1878-1967), daughter of Ole W. Erickson and Hulga Wiegren (1851-1933). (Ole and Hulga's son, Henning, married Christine Bloom Rose's daughter Estelle.) They had five children: Vivian, Floyd, Lyle C., Genevieve and Leland.

Alice Erickson

Johan Magnus (Johnson) Jonasson
Sophia (Bloom) Jonasson 1870 ? 1878

Tillkännagifves
för slägtingar och vänner att Herren i sin stora
nåd och barmhertighet och alltid rådbehagat till sin eviga rolighet hemförlofva efter en längre och
tärande sjukdom min
ömt älskade
maka

SOPHIA JONASSON
(född Blom)

i en ålder af 61 år, 6 månader och 4 dagar.

Hon var född i Askeberga af Östra Torsås församling, Kronobergs län, Sverige, den 29 September 1833, ankom hit till Amerika till Chisago Lake, Minn., på sommaren 1866 och inträdde härstädes i den svenska evangeliska lutherska församlingen. Hon hade under flere år varit privat småskolelärarinna i Sverige och i fyra år innehaft samma befattning vid Chisago Lake och Marine landsförsamlingar. Vi förenades i det heliga äktenskapet den 23 Februari 1871 och Herren har välsignat vårt äktenskap med tre barn, en dotter och två söner hvilka alla lefva och tillsammans med mig sörja hennes bortgång. Hon slutade sin vandring här nere i denna jämmerdalen stilla och fridfullt i tron på sin Frälsare kl. 11 55 Torsdags eftermiddagen den 4 April 1895.

Vår sorg är stor; men vi sörja dock icke såsom de der intet hopp hafva, ty vi hafva det visse hoppet att hon fick gå hem till sin och allas vår Frälsare, hvilken hon allt jemt bedit och älskat sedan vi kommo tillsammans för något öfver tjugufyra år sedan. Hennes sista sjukdom varade blott femton dagar. Hennes älskling ssång var psalmen 480 i svenska psalmboken, som hon sjöng när hon förmådde sjunga, och hvilken sjöngs för henne tre timmar före hennes död. Hon efterlemnar förutom sörjande make och tre barn, många slägtingar och talrika vänner. Begrafningen egde rum från kyrkan i Scandia, Minn., Palmsöndagen den 7 April kl. 3–4 eftermiddagen.

Scandia, Washington Co., Minn.,
den 11 April 1895.
Johan M Jonasson och *barnen.*

English translation of the obituary
of Sophia Jonasson (Gustaf Blom's sister).

Notification to relatives and friends that the Lord in his mighty grace and mercy has called upon after a long and taxing illness to his eternal peace, my dearly beloved wife Sophia Jonasson (born Blom) at an age of 61 years, 6 months and 4 days. She was born in Askeberga, in Östra Torsas Perish, Kronobergs County, Sweden, the 29th of September 1833, and arrived here in America to Chisago Lake, Minnesota, in the summer of 1866 and joined the Swedish Evangelic Lutheran perish. She had during many years been a nonpublic school teacher in Swede and four years had the same position at Chisago Lake and Marlin land perishes. We were joined in the holy matrimony on the 23rd of February 1871 and the Lord has blessed our marriage with three children, one daughter and two sons, which all live and together mourn her decease. She completed her journey down here on this earth, still and peacefully in the faith of her savior at 11:55 Thursday afternoon on the 4th of April, 1895.

Our grief is large; but we do not mourn as those who do not have any faith, since we have the definite faith in that she got to go home to her and the savior of all of us, which she has always prayed and wished for since we became a couple over twenty four years ago. Her last illness lasted only fifteen days. Her favorite hymn was the hymn 480 in the Swedish Hymn Book, which she sang while she still could, and which was sung to her three hours before her death. She leaves behind, a mourning husband and three children, many relatives and numerous friends. The funeral was held in the church in Scandia, Minnesota, Palm Sunday the 7th of April at 3-4 in the afternoon.

Scandia, Washington CO., Minnesota, the 11 of April 1895.
Johan M. Jonasson and the children

Sylvia Johnson Babb's Memories

granddaughter of Sophia (Blom) Jonasson (Johnson).

My paternal grandmother, Sophia, was a sister of Gustaf Bloom. After Gustaf had settled in the Chisago Lakes area, he sent for his three sisters. I don't know what happened to Gustaf's sister Ingrid, but she died someplace in America in 1904. Helena married Magnus Broberg and eventually lived around Atwater, Minnesota. Sophia had been a teacher in Sweden. She also taught around the Lindstrom and Scandia area in Minnesota. She married Johan Jonasson (later Johnson) and settled in Scandia where Johan was their first postmaster. He held that position for over 20 years. The house had one room that was the post office and telephone office. Harriet Ekegreen {sic} Johnson now owns it. Harriet's husband was a descendant of Johan's brother, Peter. Snickeere {sic} Peter-Carpenter Peter {sic}. The post office desk and other artifacts are in the home of John Olsen, a great-grandson of Johan. He teaches in Forest Lake High School.

Willie and Olivia Johnson
Married 1914, Willie died 1940

Johan and Sophia had three children: Anna, Charles and William (Willie-my dad). Anna married a Norwegian blacksmith, and they had six children: Viola, Florence, Hazel, Helmer, Arnold and Estelle (all deceased). John Olsen lives in the 160+-year-old Olsen home in Scandia. His mother, Edith, lives in Osceola and is 92 years old.

Sofia's son, Charles, later changed his name from Johnson to Burns. He was in business around Center City, and there were several Charlie Johnsons (hence mail mix-ups). He asked my dad, Willie, if he wanted to change his name. My dad thought Johnson was a better name for a Swede, so we remained Johnson. Charlie married Alice Erickson from near Marine and lived in Center City. Their children were: Floyd, Lyle, Genevieve, Leland and Vivian (all deceased including their spouses). There are descendants, but I don't have contact with them. Charlie and Alice Burns were my Godparents.

My father married Olvia Osberg of Marine on April 9, 1914. He had helped grandpa in the post office, was a rural mail carrier and had been a mail clerk on the Mesabi Iron Range Railroad. He had come home to stay with grandpa. Sophia died on Palm Sunday, April 5, 1895. She was 61 years old.

Johan lived to age 85. He had a stroke and was bed ridden and cared for in Anton and Annie's home in Scandia at Olsen's. Annie had "her hands full". She had six children, and Arnold and Estelle were very small. She died at age 59 in 1929 or 1930 from diabetes and pneumonia. Anton died of a heart attack in 1931. Helmer took over the Blacksmith shop-which is now gone.

My Dad, Willie, moved to the Osberg farm. He and his wife, Olivia, had to care for her old parents, Olaf and Breta. Olaf died in 1918, and Breta died in 1920. I barely remember them. I never knew my grandparents, Johan and Sophia.

My dad, Willie, was the world's worst farmer! He hated it but tried to cope. He was an articulate and well-read man who should have been a minister or teacher.

Irma, Elfie, Genevieve and Vivian Burns

After Grandma Breta died in 1920, we rented out that farm and moved to dad's old home that he owned. We lived there from the late 1920's to 1922. Dad couldn't find much work but did work as a custodian and gravedigger for the Scandia Church. Olivia also had boarders. There were no restaurants in Scandia! Single workers could find rooms to rent but nowhere to eat!

I was born October 17, 1915, on the Osberg farm. I started grade one in the old Goose Lake School one and one-half miles east of Scandia. Uncle Charlie and my dad had gone to school there, too! For five years I didn't have contact with many children. Most neighbors were bachelors, and spinsters or if married, had kids older than I. Consequently, I caught every childhood disease that came along. At the end of the year I had been absent so much, my dear teacher didn't pass me. When I say "dear", I really mean it! Then we moved back to the farm, and I was in grade one in the school in Marine. No one but the teacher, my parents and I knew I was repeating grade one. The other kids thought I was smart because I could read some!

Again in 1929-1931 we moved to Scandia. Dad took the census in 1930. Mom still cooked for boarders. In 1931 I started high school in Stillwater. There was no bus service then. We worked for our room and board, and we walked. In 1934 I still couldn't afford college, so I did housework on Summit Avenue in St. Paul for three dollars a week in a twelve-room house. Then finally in 1936-1938 I was able to get a loan from the Rotary Club and Federal Farm Loan Projects, so I attended St. Cloud Teachers College. While in college I worked in the art department and in the dorm setting tables and washing dishes. I also babysat and served meals for professors who entertained rather formally and often.

In September of 1938 I started grades one through six, south of Afton, Minnesota. I had 13 pupils and was paid $78 a month. In 1939-1941 I taught in Askov, Minnesota. My first year there, I taught grades five through six and had 37 students. For that I was paid $80 per month. The next year I had third and fourth grades with 45 students and was paid $82.50 per month. In the fall of 1939 our farm was foreclosed. My folks found an old house in Stillwater. My dad was very ill and died February 14, 1940. Mom continued to live there and found work on a WPA sewing project, did babysitting and helped in homes. I also sent money home each month. We finally got the house paid for, and my loans were paid off. Dad had left a little insurance money.

I taught the 1941-1942 school year in Mora, Minnesota. I had 37 sixth graders, and my pay was $100 per month. For the 1942-1943 school year I went back to my rural school and was paid $95 a month but had only 11 kids in grades one through eight. That was a fun year. I had had these kids before and could go home every weekend. In 1943-1944 I taught third grade in the old Nelson School in Stillwater. I taught sixteen fourth graders. It was my best year, but I was determined to join the U.S. Navy Waves, so I did.

I took boot camp at Hunter College in the Bronx, New York, for six weeks. Despite the heat, humidity, shots, drills and inspection, we survived. I was then transferred to the Atlanta, Georgia, Naval Air Station for ten weeks of Link Instrument Trainer Instructor School (LINK). LINK was the simulator used to teach instrument flying. Our instructors had one and one-half years of training, but we were to learn it in ten weeks! Many young "washed out" pilots who could be sent overseas came to replace us. Waves couldn't be sent overseas. I was then transferred to the Naval Aviation Technical Training Compound (NATTC) in Gainesville, Georgia, 60 miles northeast of Atlanta. I worked as a barracks supervisor (WAVES Shore Patrol) and started libraries. In December of 1945 I was discharged and returned to teaching in Stillwater City Schools.

Then in 1947-1948 I attended Iowa State College in Ames and majored in Home Economics. Then back to teaching in 1948 in Cambridge, Minnesota. I taught second grade for 30 years. On June 9, 1951, I married Don Babb who was a city engineer for 29 years. Don died in 1996. We adopted Diane who has been so wonderful! Diane is now a dental assistant.

1. Ms Helena BLOM (b.1840-Östra Torsås,Askaberga,V,SS;d.1917-Atwater,Minnesota)
sp: Mr. Magnus BROBERG (b.1835-Älmeboda Parish,Sweden;m.1863;d.1908-Atwater,MN)
2. Mr. Charles (Carl) August BROBERG (b.1864-Center City,MN;d.1932-Rainy Butte,North Dakota)
sp: Ms Anna Sophia Wilhelmina BERGSTROM (b.1873-Grove City,MN;m.1893;d.1903-)
3. Ms Esther Anna Helena BROBERG (b.1894-Atwater,MN;d.1985-Neenah,WI)
sp: Mr. George Henry Christian SARTORIUS (b.1885-Ludington,Michigan;m.1913;d.1971-)
4. Ms Helen Augusta SARTORIUS (b.1920-Rainy Butte ND;d.2000-Appleton,Wi)
sp: Mr. Robert Edward MCGOWAN (b.1920-Marinette,Wi;m.1944;d.1950-Town of Grov)
5. Ms Dorothy Annette MCGOWAN (b.1944-Menominee,MI)
sp: Mr. Kenneth Robert ELLENBECKER (b.1940-Appleton,WI;m.1964;d.1990-)
6. Ms Kristine Anne ELLENBECKER (b.1965-Appleton,WI)
sp: Mr. Bradley DRIESSEN (m.1983)
7. Ms Amber Lyn DRIESSEN (b.1984-Kaukauna,WI)
7. Ms Emily Anne DRIESSEN (b.1986-Kaukauna,WI)
sp: UNKNOWN
8. Mr. Anthony James MILLER (b.2006)
6. Mr. Keith Robert ELLENBECKER (b.1966-Appleton,WI)
sp: Ms Beverly DORN (m.1984)
sp: Ms Melissa BIERITZ (m.1994)
sp: Mr. Daniel Arthur BEHLING (b.1943-Appleton,Wi;m.1970)
6. Ms Sarah Therese BEHLING (b.1971-Appleton,Wi)
sp: Mr. Dale KRAFT (b.1965-Appleton,WI;m.1997)
5. Ms Roberta Helena MCGOWAN (b.1945-Marinette,WI)
sp: Mr. Paul TISELING (b.1943;m.1969)
6. Mr. Mark Edward TISELING (b.1972-Sheboygan,WI)
sp: Ms Lisa MUNCEY (m.1994)
7. Ms Autumn Nicole TISELING (b.2000-Appleton,WI)
7. Mr. Brandon Mark TISELING (b.2003-Appleton,WI)
7. Mr. Noah TISELING (b.2005)
6. Ms Katherine Ann TISELING (b.1975-Neenah,WI)
4. Mr. Carl Marvin George SARTORIUS (b.1914-North Dakota;d.1982-Appleton,WI)
sp: Ms Esther SCHROEDER (m.1939)
5. Ms Darlene Esther SARTORIUS (b.1939-Marinette,WI;d.1994-Green Bay,Wi)
sp: Mr. James SMITH (m.1964)
5. Ms Donna Annette SARTORIUS (b.1941-Menominee,MI)
sp: Mr. Richard RUSCH (m.1967)
5. Ms Jean Marie SARTORIUS (b.1943-Sawyer,WI)
sp: Mr. Leonard WENDLER (m.1963)
5. Ms Nancy Lee SARTORIUS (b.1947;d.2002-Black Creek,WI)
sp: Mr. Jerry SPATZ (m.1967)
5. Mr. Marvin Carl SARTORIUS (b.1949)
4. Mr. Arnold Wilhelm SARTORIUS (b.1916-North Dakota;d.2002-Porterfield,WI)
4. Ms Anna Christina SARTORIUS (b.1918;d.1995)
sp: Mr. Herman DALSANTO (m.1936)
5. Mr. John Herman DALSANTO (b.1937;d.2005)
sp: Ms Mary Ann BOWERS
sp: Ms Helen JAGODINSKI
5. Mr. Dennis Joseph DALSANTO (b.1939)
sp: Ms Beverly STANSFIELD

- 5, Ms Marybeth DALSANTO
  - sp: Mr. James RAY
  - sp: Fred HENSEN
  - sp: Bernard YOUNG
- 5, Ms Barbara DALSANTO (b.1944)
  - sp: Mr. Virgil BAKER
  - sp: Mr. Paul ANETSBERGER
- 5, Mr. Jerome Robert DALSANTO
  - sp: Ms Janice
- 5. Ms Frances Ann DALSANTO (b.1954)

4. Mr. Baby Boy SARTORIUS (b.1925-Porterfield,WI;d.1925-Porterfield,WI)

3. Mr. Carl Alfred Emannual BROBERG (b.1895;d.1896)

3, Mr. Walter Carlton Ansgar BROBERG (b.1897-Atwater,MN;d.1957-Minneapolis,MN)

sp: Ms Florence ANDERSON (b.1898;m.1921;d.1998)

4, Mr. Robert Neil Carlton BROBERG (b.1924;d.2011)

sp: Ms Mary ROBBINS (b.1925)

- 5, Ms Sharon BROBERG (b.1946-Minneapolis,MN)
  - sp: Mr. Marc Daniel SCHIRER (m.1967)
    - 6, Mr. Michael Allen SCHIRER (b.1969-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Ms Veronica
        - 7. Mr. Nikko SCHIRER
    - 6, Ms Rebecca Ann SCHIRER (b.1972-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Bert BRYAN
        - 7. Ms Amelia BRYAN
        - 7. Ms Kadance BRYAN
  - sp: Mr. Robert John MOELLER (m.(Div))
    - 6, Ms Rachel Mary MOELLER (b.1977-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Bryan CHASE (m.(Div))
      - sp: Mr. John MONTAGNE
        - 7. Mr. Kamdin Montagne MONTAGNE
        - 7. Ms Kylie MONTAGNE
- 5, Ms Sandra Lou BROBERG (b.1947-Minneapolis,MN)
  - sp: Mr. Ronald Ira SCOTT (b.1947-Minneapolis,MN;m.1968)
    - 6. Ms Ronald Jon SCOTT (b.1975-Minneapolis,MN)
    - 6. Mr. Cary Allene SCOTT (b.1979-Minneapolis,MN)
- 5, Mr. Robert Neal Carlton BROBERG I I (b.1949-Minneapolis,MN)
  - sp: Ms Lois Jean HAGEN (b.1948-Granite Ffalls,Minnespta;m.1970;d.1989-)
    - 6, Mr. Robert Neal Carlton BROBERG I I I (b.1970-Granite Ffalls,Minnespta)
      - sp: Ms Twyla (m.1996(Div))
      - sp: Ms Wendy SAN (m.2011)
    - 6. Mr. Richard Lee BROBERG (b.1973-Minneapolis,MN)
    - 6, Mr. Charles Ulysses BROBERG (b.1976)
      - sp: Ms Stacy Jo (b.1975-Dawson,Minnesota;m.1996)
        - 7. Mr. Terryell Charles BROBERG (b.1998-Montevideo,Minnesota)
        - 7. Ms Trinity Elizabeth BROBERG
  - sp: Ms Kathryn Ann LASCON (m.1990)
- 5, Ms Kathleen Marie BROBERG (b.1950-Minneapolis,MN)
  - sp: Mr. Jerry James CARRIER I I (b.1948-Minneapolis,MN;m.1970)
    - 6, Ms Jessica Rose CARRIER (b.1970-Minneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Mr. James Alan FRIEDMAN (b.1965-Washington D.C.;m.1995)
        - 7. Ms Madeline Jane FRIEDMAN (b.1999-Madison,Wisconsin)

- 7. Ms Lucy Rose FRIEDMAN (b.2001-Madison,Wisconsin)
- 6. Mr. Jerry James CARRIER I I I (b.1971-Sam Bernardion,California)
- 6, Ms Amy Louise CARRIER (b.1974-Minneapolis,MN)
  - sp: Mr. Shaun Matthew KOZA (b.1975-Minneapolis,MN;m.1993(Div))
    - 7, Mr. Brandon Chrisstopher KOZA (b.1995-Landstuhl,Germany)
      - sp: UNKNOWN
  - sp: Mr. Ryan Shawn EMERY (b.1973)
    - 7. Mr. Ethan Clifford EMERY (b.2002)
    - 7. Mr. Henry William EMERY (b.2004)
    - 7. Ms Kathleen Allison EMERY (b.2007)
- 6. Mr. Adam Albert Broberg CARRIER (b.1982-St. Paul,Minnesota)

5, Mr. Bruce Keith BROBERG (b.1951-Minneapolis,MN)
- sp: Ms Etchika Miriam Chanel REINING
  - 6. Mr. Gabrielle Solonge BROBERG (b.1984-Seattle,Washington)
  - 6. Ms Ghyslaine Mercedes BROBERG (b.1987-Seattle,Washington)

5, Mr. Bradley Scott BROBERG (b.1957-Minneapolis,MN)
- sp: Ms Jody Lynn NORTHENSCOLD (b.1978-Minneapolis,MN;m.1978)
  - 6, Mr. Isaac Peter BROBERG (b.1978-Minneapolis,MN)
    - sp: Ms Susan SUN (b.1980-Taichung,Taiwan;m.2008)
      - 7. Ms Milla Wanli BROBERG (b.2009-Minneapolis,MN)
      - 7. Mr. Elliot Hansheng BROBERG (b.2011-Minneapolis,MN)
  - 6, Mr. Luke Martin BROBERG (b.1980-Minneapolis,MN)
    - sp: Ms Juveria SHAJEHAN
      - 7. Mr. Hafsah Shajehan BROBERG
  - 6. Mr. Simon Stephen BROBERG (b.1987-St. Paul,Minnesota)
  - 6. Mr. Noah Nels BROBERG (b.1991-St. Paul,Minnesota)
  - 6. Mr. Isaiah Magnus BROBERG (b.1994-St. Paul,Minnesota)

5, Ms Karen Sue BROBERG (b.1961-Minneapolis,MN)
- sp: Mr. Senan Sadiq MUSTAFA (b.1959-Kuwait;m.1980(Div))
  - 6, Mr. Rashad MUSTAFA (b.1981-Minneapolis,MN)
    - sp: Ms Allicia Anne TVEDT (b.1982-Minneapolis,MN;m.2011)
- sp: Mr. Robert John POPEHN (b.1961-Minneapolis,MN;m.1986)
  - 6, Ms Samantha Jolene POPEHN (b.1988-Minneapolis,MN)
    - sp: UNKNOWN
      - 7. Mr. Riley Marcos ZADAKA (b.2009-Minneapolis,MN)
  - 6. Mr. Zachary Robert POPEHN (b.1991-Burnsville,Minnesota)
  - 6. Mr. Montana Jackson POPEHN (b.1994-Burnsville,Minnesota)

4, Mr. Warren Keith BROBERG (b.1928;d.1975)
- sp: Ms Marilyn KRAUSE (m.1951)

5, Mr. Karl Walter BROBERG (b.1953-North Hollywood,California)
- sp: Ms Patricia Ann PRIOR (m.1982)

5, Mr. Mark Warren BROBERG (b.1955-Minneapolis,MN)
- sp: Ms Lana TINNIN (m.1978)
  - 6, Mr. Michael Steven BROBERG (b.1975)
    - sp: Ms Shawna Rene SMITH (m.2001)
      - 7. Ms Morgan Paige SMITH (b.1998-Athens,TX)
      - 7. Mr. Randle Bruce SMITH (b.1999-Athens,TX)
      - 7. Mr. Christopher Jordan BROBERG (b.2002-Athens,TX)
  - 6, Mr. Mindy Louise BROBERG (b.1979)
    - sp: Mr. Mark GOLDMANS (m.2003)
      - 7. Mr. Lindsay Paige GOLDMANS (b.2004-Dallas,Texas)

7. Mr. Nathan Alexander GOLDMANS (b.2007-Dallas,Texas)
6, Mr. Eric Warren BROBERG (b.1984)
sp: Ms Victoria Chrstine BREEEZE (m.2007)
7. Ms Abigail Grace BROBERG (b.2010-Tulsa,Ok)
5, Mr. David Kenneth BROBERG (b.1956-Minneapolis,MN)
sp: Ms Linda Louise ACKER (m.(Div))
6. Ms Jana BROBERG (b.1982-Dalls,Texas)
sp: Ms Rebecca Anne BUSH (m.1990)
6. Mr. Kenneth David BROBERG (b.1991-Newport Beach,California)
6. Mr. Austin Ronald BROBERG (b.1992-Newport Beach,California)
6. Mr. Colin Thomas BROBERG (b.1995-Minneapolis,MN)
5, Mr. Randall Keith BROBERG (b.1961-Minneapolis,MN)
sp: Ms Justine Marie Kathleen GOMZ (m.1988)
6. Mr. Alexander Reid BROBERG (b.1993)
6. Mr. Spenser Maxwell BROBERG (b.1995-San Diego,California)
6. Ms Mallory Peyton BROBERG (b.1997-San Diego,California)
4, Ms June Ramona BROBERG (b.1931)
sp: Mr. Richard NELSON
5, Ms Nancy Ann NELSON (b.1954-Minneapolis,MN)
sp: Dale Alan TEMTE (m.1976)
6. Ms Alyssa DiAnna TEMTE (b.1991-){ABogata,Colombia)
6. Ms Makaela Vanessa TEMTE (b.1992-){ABogata,Colombia)
6. Ms Braylon Nelson TEMTE (b.1996-){ACincinnati,Ohio)
5, Ms Wendy June NELSON (b.1956-Minneapolis,MN)
sp: Mr. Dennis Arnold BECKER (m.1977)
6. Ms Tammy Lynn BECKER (b.1979-Saskatoon,Saskatchewan,Canada)
6, Ms Jami Mathew BECKER (b.1981-Saskatoon,Saskatchewan,Canada)
sp: Ms Hayley Joy MILLARD (m.2008)
6. Ms Carrie Nicole BECKER (b.1985-Saskatoon,Saskatchewan,Canada)
6. Ms Bobbi Jo BECKER (b.1987-Saskatoon,Saskatchewan,Canada)
5, Mr. Gary Richard NELSON (b.1959-Minneapolis,MN)
sp: Ms Rebecca Jean BRUGGEMAN (m.1988)
6. Ms Lindsay Gretchen NELSON (b.1991-Maplewood)
6. Ms Alexis Lynn NELSON (b.1993-Maplewood)
6. Mr. Dane Louis NELSON (b.1996-Maplewood)
6. Ms Natalie Jean NELSON (b.1998-Maplewood)
3. Ms Ruth Marie C. BROBERG (b.1899;d.1971-North Dakota)
3. Ms Myrtle Dorothy Josephine BROBERG (b.1901;d.1902)
3, Mr. Albert Sophis Wilhelm BROBERG (b.1903-St. Paul,MN;d.1972)
sp: Ms Doris CLIPPER (b.1905;m.1930)
4. Mr. George Albert BROBERG (b.1931)
2. Mr. Nels Johan BROBERG (b.1865-Center City,MN;d.1866-Center City,MN)
2, Ms Anna Lisa Regina BROBERG (b.1868-Center City,MN;d.1945-Corvallis,OR)
sp: Mr. Nels Peter PETERSON (b.1864;d.1936-Atoria,Or)
3, Ms Veola PETERSON (b.1897;d.1974)
sp: Mr. Ivar ROSS
4, Ms Catherine ROSS
sp: Mr. GRIFFIN
4, Ms Mary ROSS
sp: Mr. WILMOT
sp: Mr. WILMOT

- 3, Ms Frances PETERSON (b.1899;d.1992)
  - sp: Mr. Walter MORSE (b.1899;d.1991)
- 3, Ms Verna PETERSON (b.1900;d.1978)
  - sp: Mr. Ray PENDLETON (b.1897;d.1982)
- 3. Ms Grace PETERSON
- 3. Ms Gertrude Catherine PETERSON (b.1903;d.1994-Portland,OR)

2, Ms Martha Sophia BROBERG (b.1870-Center City,MN;d.1950-Minnapolis,MN)
- sp: Mr. George E. PETERSON
- 3. Mr. George Lester PETERSON
- 3. Ms Deloris PETERSON
- 3. Mr. Clifford PETERSON
- 3. Ms Effie PETERSON
- 3. Ms Myrtle PETERSON

2. Mr. Edwin Ansgarius BROBERG (b.1872-Center City,MN;d.1876-Franconia Township,MN)

2. Mr. Anton Mathias BROBERG (b.1875-Center City,MN;d.1876-Center City,MN)

2. Ms Hannah Maria BROBERG (b.1877-Atwater,MN;d.1901-Atwater,MN)

2, Ms Hilda Augusta BROBERG (b.1879-Atwater,MN;d.1938-Atwater,MN)
- sp: Mr. John William MILLER (b.1877;m.1905;d.1940)
- 3, Mr. Aldine Lyle MILLER (b.1907;d.1983)
  - sp: Ms Myrtle Evelyn Lindback (b.1915;m.1937(Div);d.1986)
  - 4, Ms Rozelle Evelyn Hilda MILLER (b.1938;d.1984)
    - sp: Mr. Donald Roger HUSOM (b.1932;m.1958;d.2001)
    - 5, Ms Constance Lee HUSOM (b.1957)
      - sp: Steve BAUM (b.1955;m.1974(Div))
      - 6, Mr. Paul Lee Baum HUNSON (b.1975)
        - sp: UNKNOWN
        - 7. Mr. Joshua HUNSON (b.1998)
    - 5, Mr. Rock Allen HUSOM (b.1959)
      - sp: Ms Jill Noreen CODY (b.1960;m.(Div))
      - 6. Ms Deanna Marie HUSOM (b.1979)
      - 6, Mr. Donald Roger HUSOM II (b.1981)
        - sp: UNKNOWN
        - 7. Mr. Bret Rylie HUSOM (b.2000)
      - 6. Ms Jennifer Lynn HUSOM (b.1983)
      - sp: Ms Kathy (b.1962;m.(Div))
      - 6. Ms Danielle Kathryn HUSOM (b.1990)
    - 5, Ms Tracy Lynn Husom HUSOM (b.1961)
      - sp: Mr. Randy THOMPSON (m.(Div))
      - 6. Mr. Keziah Roe THOMPSON (b.1982)
      - 6. Ms CaSondra Lynn THOMPSON (b.1984)
    - 5, Ms Lisa Elaine HUSOM (b.1964)
      - sp: Mr. Roger HOGRAFF (m.(Div))
      - 6. Mr. Justin Leo HOGRAFF (b.1982)
      - 6. Mr. Brandon Roger HOGRAFF (b.1984)
      - sp: Mr. Ronald KLAVERKAMP (b.1964)
    - 5, Mr. Troy Donelle HUSOM (b.1969)
      - sp: Ms Gloria Gerda NEWMAN (b.1964)
    - 5, Mr. Meredith Lyle HUSOM (b.1971)
      - sp: UNKNOWN
      - 6. Mr. Dacotah ROBINSON (b.1996)
      - 6. Ms Rozelle ROBINSON (b.1998)

- 4, Ms Barbara Lyle MILLER (b.1939)
  - sp: Mr. Roger Elmer JOHNSON (b.1941;m.1968)
    - 5, Mr. Kenneth Roger JOHNSON (b.1963){A}
      - sp: Ms Tina MARSH (b.1964;m.(Div))
        - 6. Ms Crystal Lynn Johnson JOHNSON (b.1983)
    - 5, Ms Kristine Ann JOHNSON{A}
      - sp: Mr. Shannon WELTIKOL (m.(Div))
      - sp: Mr. Dean Alan MERTZ (b.1964;m.1994)
        - 6. Mr. Brody Allan MERTZ (b.1995)
        - 6. Mr. Dustin Lee MERTZ (b.2001)
    - 5, Ms Kimberlie Joy JOHNSON (b.1971){A}
      - sp: Mr. Jason Lee HARVELAND (b.1969;m.1988(Div))
        - 6. Ms Kiesha Marie HARVELAND (b.1989)
        - 6. Mr. Jade Lee HARVELAND (b.1993)
      - sp: Mr. Lloyd James PATTERSON Jr (m.2001)
- 4, Mr. Kent Aldien MILLER (b.1940)
  - sp: Ms Dorothy Louise AHRENS (b.1951;m.1972)
    - 5. Ms Tara Lynn MILLER (b.1975)
    - 5. Mr. Jon Alden MILLER (b.1977)
    - 5. Mr. Daren Allen MILLER (b.1981)
- 4. Ms Meredith Elaine MILLER (b.1942;d.1967)

- 3, Ms Lorraine Helen Evelyn MILLER (b.1910-Kandiyohi county,MN;d.1992-Wilmar,MN)
  - sp: Mr. Vernon E. BROWN (b.1911-Meeker county,Mn;m.1940;d.1997-Litchfield,MN)
    - 4, Ms Mardelle Lorraine BROWN (b.1942-Litchfield,MN)
      - sp: Mr. Bert CRIST (b.1941;m.1963)
        - 5. Mr. Paul Albert CRIST (b.1965-Bismark,North Dakota)
        - 5, Mr. Michael John CRIST (b.1968-Fargo,North Dakota)
          - sp: Ms Kimberly BELLING (m.1997)
        - 5, Ms Deborah Michelle CRIST (b.1970-Denver,Colorado)
          - sp: Mr. James HOUSEMAN (m.1993)
            - 6. Mr. Ryan James HOUSEMAN (b.1998-Rochester,MN)
            - 6. Ms Anna Michelle HOUSEMAN (b.2000-Rochester,MN)
    - 4, Mr. David Vernon BROWN (b.1949-){AMinneapolis,MN)
      - sp: Ms. Maureen QUINN (b.1956-Minneapolis,MN;m.1991)
        - 5. Ms Lillian Mae BROWN (b.1997-){AChina)

- 2, Ms Rebecca Josephine BROBERG (b.1883-Atwater,MN;d.1978-Astoria,OR)
  - sp: Mr. Theodore Harry OLSON (b.1882;m.1906;d.1966)
    - 3, Mr. Kenneth Theodore OLSON (b.1910;d.1986)
      - sp: Ms Florence Leonette. REISS (b.1917;m.1937)
        - 4, Ms Eleanor Florence OLSON (b.1939)
          - sp: Mr. William Jerome VAUGHAN (b.1933;d.1969)
            - 5, Mr. Jerome Kenneth VAUGHAN (b.1959)
              - sp: Ms Nannette ZEARCES (b.1961)
                - 6, Ms Jessica Nicole VAUGHAN (b.1988)
                  - sp: Mr. Zach SNOW
                    - 7. Mr. Rylan SNOW (b.2008)
            - 5, Ms Joanne Leonett VAUGHAN (b.1961)
              - sp: Mr. Robert CHERNEY (b.1961;d.2012)
                - 6, Ms Kimberly Renee CHERNEY (b.1981)
                  - sp: Mr. Jared NORELL
                    - 7. Mr. Neil Brayden NORELL (b.2010)

- 6, Ms Katrina Rochelle CHERNEY (b.1986)
  - sp: Mr. Miles DESROSIERS (m.2012)
    - 7. Ms Daisy Lee DESROSIERS (b.2011)
    - 7. Ms Lilly Ann DESROSIERS (b.2011)
- 5, Mr. James Michael VAUGHAN (b.1962)
  - sp: Ms Jill FAIRCHILD (b.1962)
    - 6, Ms Whitney Ann VAUGHAN (b.1985)
      - sp: Mr. Justin FLETCHALL
        - 7. Ms Lillian FLETCHALL (b.2009)
    - 6. Mr. James Michael VAUGHAN (b.1986)
- 5. Mr. Jeffrey Neal VAUGHAN (b.1963)
- 5, Mr. Jay Edward VAUGHAN (b.1966;d.1995)
  - sp: Ms Kellie Joanne NEHER (b.1968)
    - 6. Ms Erica VAUGHAN (b.1989)
    - 6. Ms Alicia VAUGHAN (b.1991)

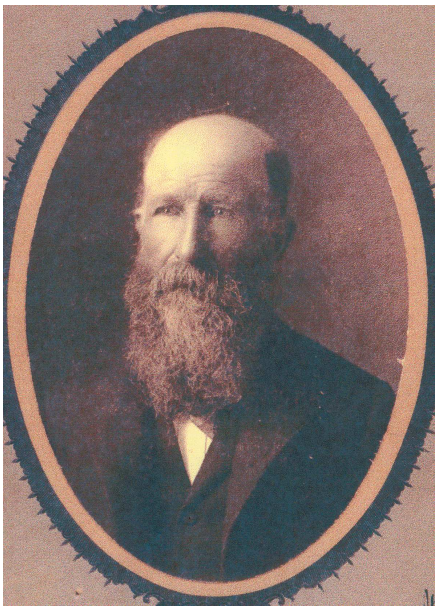
sp: Mr. Kyle BLEVINS (b.1915;d.1983)

- 4, Mr. Kenneth Theodore OLSON (b.1940)
  - sp: Ms Nancy SHEPHERD (b.1941;d.1998)
    - 5, Mr. Kenneth Theodore OLSON (b.1959)
      - sp: Ms Karen HUNT (b.1958)
        - 6. Mr. Dylan Ray OLSON (b.1996)
    - 5, Mr. Michael Alan OLSON (b.1963)
      - sp: Ms Rebecca LAYTON (b.1963)
    - 5, Mf Stephen Frank OLSON (b.1965)
      - sp: Ms Charlotte HANSEN
    - 5. Ms Korinna Trinette OLSON (b.1966)
    - 5. Mr. David Andrew OLSON (b.1967)

- 3, Ms Helen Carol OLSON (b.1922-Roseburg,Oregon;d.2011-St. Astoria,Oregon)
  - sp: Mr. Arthur Ingvald STROMSNESS (b.1918;m.1946;d.2008-Astoria,Oregon)
    - 4, Mr. Carl Phillip STROMSNESS (b.1947)
      - sp: Ms Jacqueline MERTZ (b.1952;m.(Div))
        - 5. Ms Miguel Robin BERKSTROM (b.1975)
      - sp: Ms Catherine SHIELDS (b.1948)
        - 5, Ms Megan Patrice SHIELDS-STROMSNESS (b.1980)
          - sp: Mr. James FORMATO (m.2008)
            - 6. Mr. Owen Bennett FORMATO (b.2010)
        - 5, Ms Josina Cathleen SHIELDS-STROMSNESS (b.1983)
          - sp: Mr. Hazem Al QASSAS (m.2008)
    - 4, Ms Carol Marie STROMSNESS (b.1951)
      - sp: Mr. William Charles CATTRALL (b.1947)
        - 5. Ms Julia Helen CATTRALL (b.1985)
        - 5. Ms Laura Verna CATTRALL (b.1987)
    - 4, Mr. Paul Allan STROMSNESS (b.1953)
      - sp: Ms Patricia KELLY (b.1949;m.(Div))
        - 5, Ms Amber Pearl STROMSNESS (b.1977)
          - sp: Mr. Benjamin LYNN (b.1976;m.(Div))
            - 6. Mr. Cayden Taite LYNN-STROMSNESS (b.1998)
            - 6. Ms Finley Ashur Peterson LYNN
          - sp: Mr. Collin PETERSON (m.2009)
      - sp: Ms Susan MEADOWS (b.1957)
        - 5. Mr. Charles MEADOWS (b.1979)

sp: Ms Sarah DERBY (m.2001)
6. Ms Natalie Elizabeth MEADOWS (b.2009)
6. Mr. Marcus Andrew MEADOWS (b.2011)
5. Ms Kimberly MEADOWS (b.1982)
sp: Mr. Luke GUSTAFSON (m.2005)
6. Ms Karley Anne GUSTAFSON (b.2007)
6. Mr. Keegan Allen GUSTAFSON (b.2011)
5. Mr. Eric MEADOWS (b.1983)
sp: Ms Amanda SNYDEER (m.2007(Div))
6. Mr. Gabriel Ryan MEADOWS (b.2008)
2. Mr. Baby Boy BROBERG (b.1882-Atwater,MN;d.1882-Atwater,MN)

Descendants of Helena Blom and Magnus Broberg. Bloom reunion 2003.



Magnus
and
Helena (Blom)
Broberg.

Magnus was a disabled civil war veteran serving from March 10, 1865 to July 25, 1865. The civil war ended April 9, 1865 but all hostilities did not stop for some time after that. (See page 378).

8-7-1840 Helena Blom 2-25-1917

Helena, Gustaf Blom's sister, was born in Östra Thorsås and was the youngest of Carl Blom's children. Although family tradition has it that she left Sweden after her mother died in 1862 and then arrived at the Bloom farm that year, Helena's mother actually died in 1852. Additionally, Helena's obituary has it that she was already in Center City by 1858 (see page 372 – I know the date is hard to read but since she married in 1863 it can only be 1858 - also see box below). These dates are consistent with Leif Blom's research (again, see box below). In any event, upon leaving Östra Thorsås, she stopped off in Växjö and had her photograph taken. She traveled by sailboat, and the journey took six weeks.

The following quotation is how our cousin Leif Blom, from Stockholm, Sweden sees the above:

"**Helena, the youngest child was very early out from home as a foster-child at Hårestorp, close to Askeberga and some other places too. Then in 1857, she was working at Hörda Sällaregård, still at Östra Torsås. While there, she was working with Peter Johan Olofsson who was born in 1834 at Nöbbeled. Both get attests to North America in 1858. I think they traveled together**." - Cousin Leif Blom, Stockholm, Sweden. (Note from Milan Bloom - Editor: The 1858 date is supported by Familysearch.org, i.e. Enumeration district 0064, page 10, sheet B, Family Number 192).

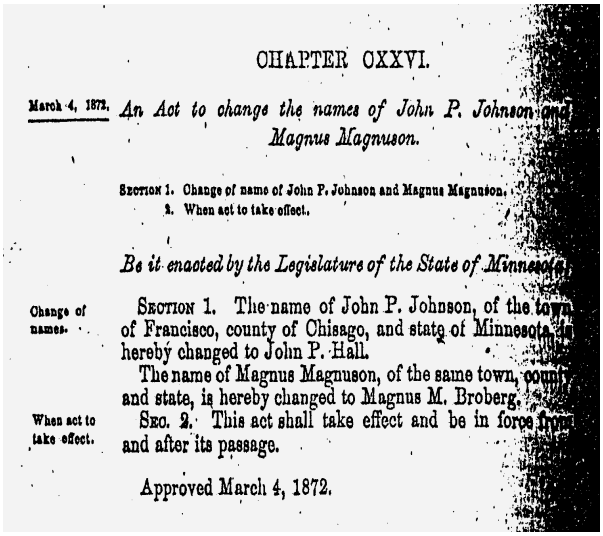
(Note added by Milan Bloom, editor of this book: Think of an "Attest" as something like a passport. For a full definition of an "Attest", as defined by Leif Blom, see the document CarlCarlssonBlomeng.pdf found on the disk(s) included with this book).

Additional comments by Milan Bloom:

1. According to Leif Blom's research, Helena's mother, Katarina, died in 1852 when Helena was only twelve. Is that why she was a foster child?

2. So what did she do from 1858 until 1863 when she got married? Also, what happened to Peter Johan Olofsson mentioned by Leif? I should think there was some romance between Peter and Helena. After all, they worked together for a year and may have traveled together so …….

Family of Helena Blom Broberg (Gustaf Blom's sister) and Magnus Broberg: Josie Broberg Olson on Helena's lap, Hilda Broberg Miller on Helena's left, Martha Broberg Peterson behind Hilda, Hannah is small girl to Magnus's right.



CHAPTER CXXVI.

March 4, 1872. *An Act to change the names of John P. Johnson and Magnus Magnuson.*

SECTION 1. Change of name of John P. Johnson and Magnus Magnuson.
2. When act to take effect.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Change of names. SECTION 1. The name of John P. Johnson, of the town of Francisco, county of Chisago, and state of Minnesota, is hereby changed to John P. Hall.

The name of Magnus Magnuson, of the same town, county and state, is hereby changed to Magnus M. Broberg.

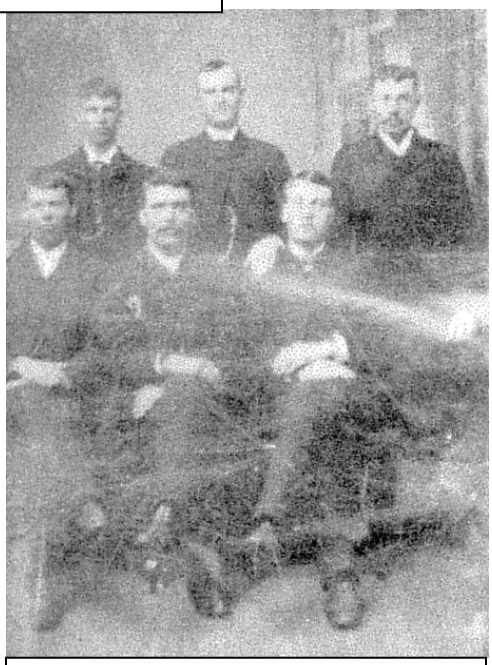
When act to take effect. SEC. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 4, 1872.

Helena married **Magnus Broberg** September 29, 1863. Magnus, a short man by today's standards - just 5 foot 6 inches - was the son of Anna K. Donberg and Magnus Magnuson. He was given his U.S. citizenship on January 20, 1902, in Kandiyohi County. In 1870 he owned $800 in real estate and $700 in personal property. His residence at this time was in the township of Franconia, Chisago County, Minnesota. Magnus died on November 5, 1908, in Atwater, Minnesota; Helena died on February 25, 1917 also in Atwater. Note: Magnus Magnuson changed his name to Magnus M. Broberg by act of the Minnesota state Legislature on March 4, 1872. His death certificate states that he was 28 when he got married, and he was still married to Helena at the time of his death.

The Broberg Family History
By David Broberg Written in 1982-1983
Edited by Adam Albert Broberg Carrier 2011

Childhood farm of Magnus Magnuson (Broberg)



August Broberg (center front)

This is a summary of events from stories of the Broberg family history. Chronological order has been maintained as much as possible. Some information was edited and deduced from the story by Walter Broberg's sister, "My Family Life", by Esther Broberg Satorius. Additional information was summarized and edited from historic notes by Anton Richard Rose. Dr. Rose was the twelfth eldest grandson of Gustaf Bloom (oldest brother of Helena Bloom), and the second cousin of Peter Broberg. The remainder of the information is from interviews, letters and memories of living Broberg descendants and from research done by myself.

Most of the beginnings of the Broberg family were rooted in Minnesota during the era often called The Romantic Age (middle of the nineteenth century). This was a time when many notable authors were making their marks in history (Edgar Allen Poe, Nathanial Hawthorne and Herman Melville to name a few). This was also the time of much friction and tension building over the slavery issues immediately preceding the Civic War (Uncle Tom's Cabin came out in 1852) although this was primarily the climate of things in the eastern states. Minnesota was somewhat isolated from these things since it was part of the frontier territories during the 1850's. Some had already immigrated to Minnesota before it became a state in 1858.

Rävemåla church interior.
This is the same church and timeframe that Gustaf Blom's Father-in-law Grandpa Gustaf Collin was a member here. So the Bloms and Brobergs must have known each other.

The economic climate of life in Sweden during the 1850's was very

depressed. Often farming families with ten or more mouths to feed might have less than ten acres of land from which to feed their families. The typical wages of a farmhand was about forty riksdaler per year (about $11.60). The cost of transportation across the ocean was about two hundred riksdaler per person (around $58.00). Sweden was a monarchy with King Oskar I ruling over Sweden and Norway. No man was free, and many were indentured servants. Several years of draughts and floods made it difficult for even the best farmers. It was easy to dream of a better land. The 1850's brought the largest influx of immigrants in American history and 2.6 million emigrated during this decade. Most of the immigrants were Irish and German. The largest portion were very poor and settled in the Eastern seaboard cities becoming industrial workers. Those with the capital left to finance a long journey to the west settled the frontier and became farmers (mostly Scandinavian and German). After financing the trans-global voyage for an entire family, they often had to pay up to fifteen dollars an acre for their typical one hundred or so acre farms in the untamed wilderness areas of Minnesota.

Rävemåla church (see church inside page 351). Home church of the Magnussons (Brobergs) and the Gustaf Collins – Gustaf Blom's Father-In-Law

The Swedish ancestors who immigrated to Minnesota went primarily to two geographic areas. The earliest settlements were in the Chisago Lakes Center City area of Franconia Township, Chisago County. This is approximately thirty miles northeast of St. Paul near Taylors Falls. This area was the first Minnesota home of the Blooms and the Brobergs. The other area of settlement was surrounding the Grove City/Atwater areas. Grove City is in Swede Grove Township of Meeker County. Atwater is in Gennessee Township of Kandiyohi County five miles west of Grove City and about sixty miles west of Minneapolis. The families who made this area home were the Borgstroms, Andersons, Pehrsons and later, the Brobergs. All would eventually be part of one family.

Skräddaremåla is the birth place of Magnus Magnusson (Broberg)

The earliest records for the Broberg family I, Adam Carrier, have found go back to Sweden in the early seventeenth century. This would be Magnus Broberg's fifth great grandfather. Johan Nilsson was born in Varmland, Sweden in 1638. This is not far from our Blom family ancestral towns. As was often the case in Sweden for centuries, the children would take the father's name and add "son" or "dotter" to the end. From this I have verified that Johan's father's name was Nils, although a surname was not found. On Walter's mother's (Anna Borgstrom) side of the family, Mons Monson married Anna Monson Borgstrom. This is apparently another case where the father skipped the surname. Their son was born Peter Borgstrom on November 20, 1939. He was the first to immigrate to Minnesota from this side of the family around 1860. He bought and cleared his land in the town of Swede Grove, Minnesota. He was one of the eight charter members who founded the First Lutheran Church in

House currently on the Skräddaremåla farm

Atwater (Kandiyohi County), five miles from his 180-acre farm.

Olaf Erickson (1812-1882) married Martha Olson (1819-1879) in Sweden. They had a daughter named Anna Stina Olsdotter (Stina may be short for Christine) born June 9, 1849. Anna Olsdotter immigrated to the Meeker County, Minnesota area called Swede Grove (five miles north of Grove City) with her parents in 1869. Anna married her neighbor who was also from Sweden, Peter Borgstrom, on December 30, 1869. They became parents of Walter Broberg's mother, Anna Sophia Wilhemina Borgstrom who was born on April 15, 1874. Anna's nephews and great nephews were the owners of the farms where Walter's son Robert discovered his love of hard, physical labor.

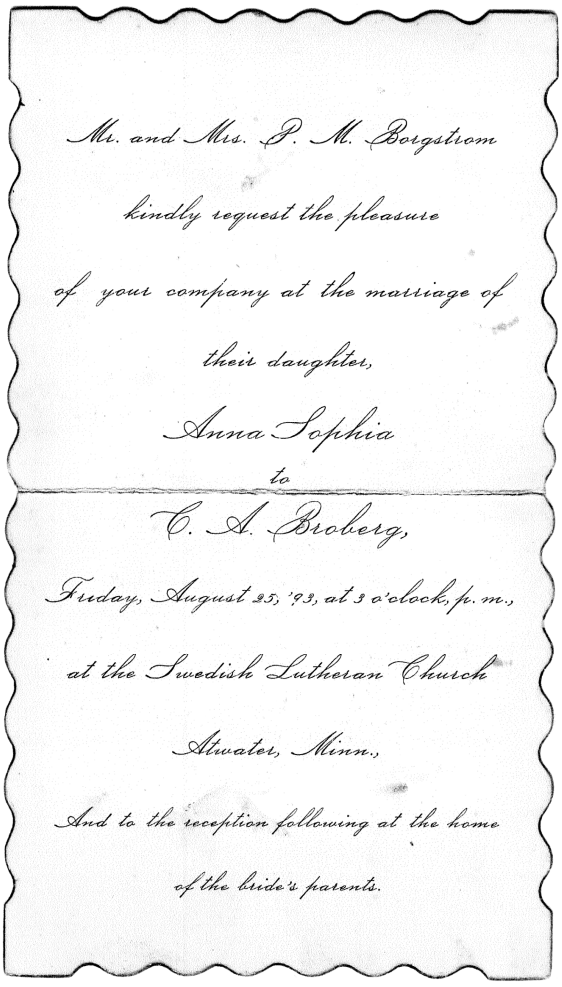
The first Broberg to reach the United States was Magnus Broberg. He was born on July 15, 1835, in Sweden. His parents' names were Magnus Magnuson and Anna K. Donberg. He was not more than nineteen years old when he emigrated from Sweden with his brother Samuel to the Chisago Lakes area of the territory of Minnesota in 1854. Samuel was twenty-six at the time. This relation is mentioned in autobiographic notes by Esther Broberg Sartorius. She makes references indicating that Charles (Magnus's son) had three first cousins from Center City, Minnesota, by the names of Jennie Broberg, Jossie Broberg, Linnell and Minnie Broberg. These were Samuel's children. From further research, I, Adam A. Broberg Carrier, have found several more children of Samuel. They are; August, Matilda, Charles, Ida, Mary, Serafina, Wilhelmina, Emma and Clara. Until very recently, very little was known of the descendents of Samuel and Johanna. I have found at least two living relatives. Their great-great granddaughter Janice Kerr, and her daughter Erin Stevenson. They live in California.

Magnus Broberg married Helena Blom (sister of Gustaf Blom) in the Center City Lutheran Church on Sept 29, 1863, the same year the Broberg brothers had joined the congregation founded in 1854 by The Reverend Erland Carlsson. Their son, Carl, was born in Center City on March 14, 1864. They also had six daughters: Anna, Martha S. (Peterson), Regina (Peterson), Hannah M., Hilda A. (Miller), and Jossie (Olson). Death records show that Magnus had a total of ten children. Nothing else is known of the remainder. The family moved to Atwater while Carl was a young boy.

Extracts from the 1870 census for Chisago County, Minnesota, list Magnus "Brober", age 35, with wife Helen, age 30. They show three children all born in Minnesota: Charles age 6, Anna age 2, Martha age 2 months. The census records indicate that Magnus owned eight hundred dollars in real estate and seven hundred dollars in personal property. They also indicate that the family resided in the township of Franconia. No "Brobergs" were listed in the Center City area at all.

Magnus Broberg obtained citizenship in Kandiyohi County on January 30, 1902. Copies obtained of the death certificate for Magnus Broberg show that he died on November 5, 1908, in Atwater. They list the cause of death as "multiple cancer". They also indicate that Magnus was the father of ten children, five of whom were living at the time of his death.

Charles (Carl) Broberg grew up in Atwater, Minnesota. (His real name is Carl, but he didn't like that name; he was called Chas, Charlie or CA). He was a merchant in Butte, Montana. He married **Anna Sophia Wilhelmina Borgstrom** (some spellings were "Bergstrom") in the Atwater Lutheran Church on August 25, 1893. They lived in Atwater in the Dudley House while **Esther** was born July 30,1895. They then moved to a farm south of town where **Carl** was born in 1896. He died about two months later. The family moved



Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Borgstrom

kindly request the pleasure

of your company at the marriage of

their daughter,

Anna Sophia

to

C. A. Broberg,

Friday, August 25, '93, at 3 o'clock, p. m.,

at the Swedish Lutheran Church

Atwater, Minn.,

And to the reception following at the home

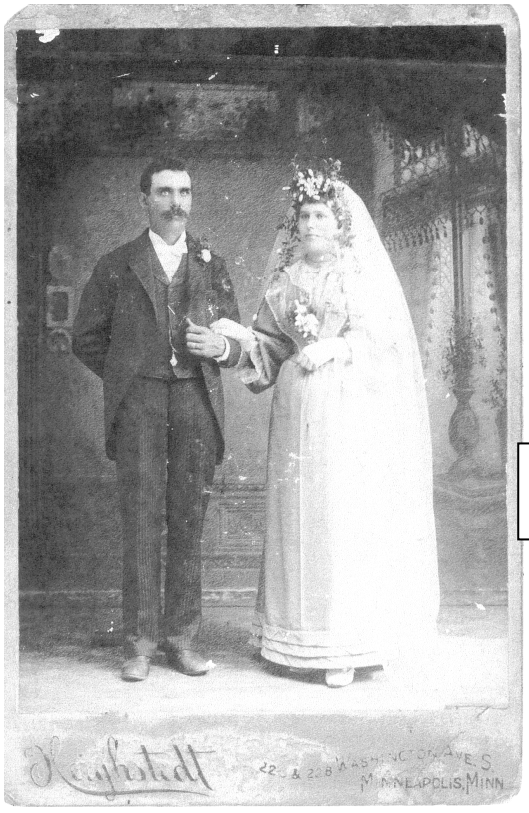
of the bride's parents.

back to the same house in Atwater after about a year on the farm. **Walter** Clarence Angsar Broberg was born there in 1897. Walter had polio when he was six months old and had to be carried around on a pillow for six months. He never completely overcame the paralysis. **Ruth** was then born on December 20, 1899. The Charles Broberg family moved to St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1900. They lived in a house on Wells Street. They rented from Charles' cousin, Jossie (Broberg) Linnell. Charles fired the boilers at the streetcar barns. In 1901 **Myrtle** was born. She also died after about two months. On February 3, 1903, **Albert Sophis Wilhelm Broberg** was born. Mother Anna had contracted German measles during the pregnancy and died two weeks after the birth in St. Paul, Minnesota (February 17, 1903). After their mother's death, the four remaining children were separated for a time. Esther and Ruth were first sent to an orphan home. Walter stayed with his grandparents (Anna's parents) the Borgstroms. Albert went to Paynesville, Minnesota, to live with Anna's uncle's family, Martin Borgstroms. Soon Ruth joined Walter and their dad at the grandparents' farm. It was two years before Esther was to return.

Charles Broberg circa early 1920s

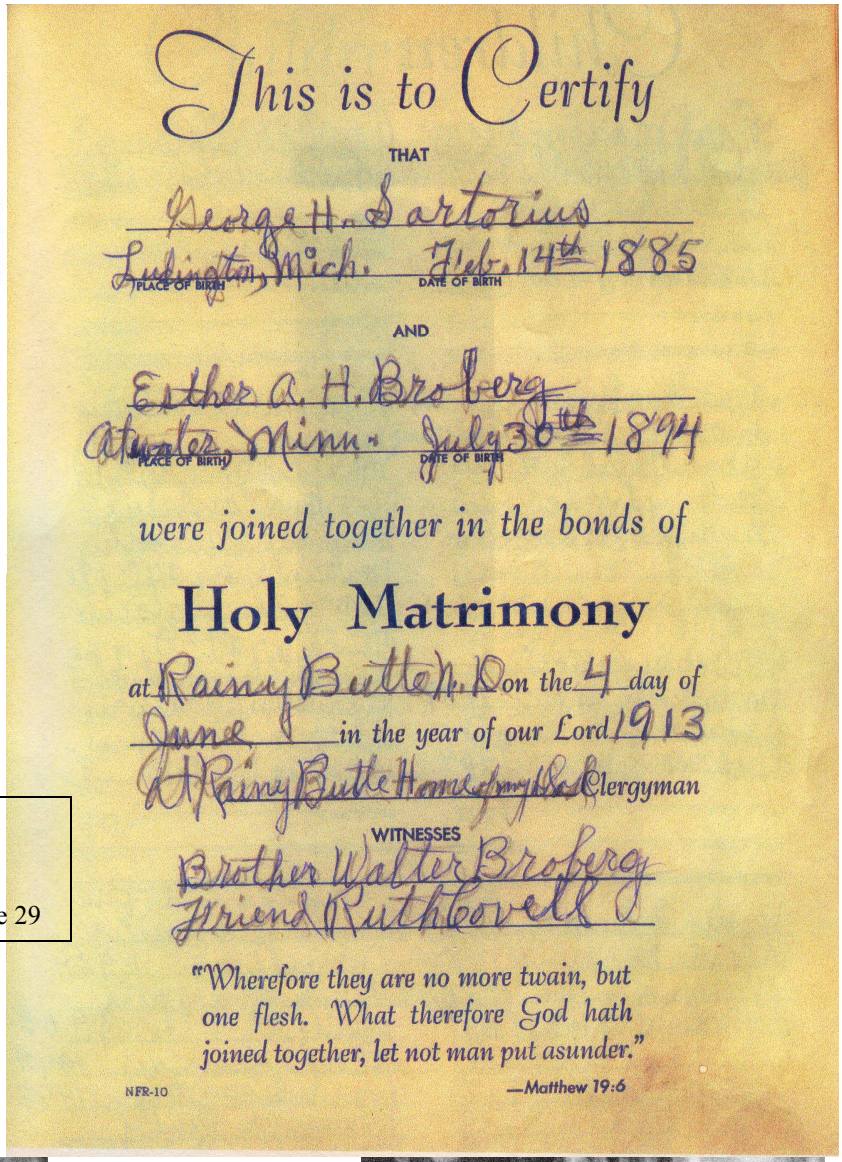
Left to Right: Esther, Charles, Baby Ruth, Anna and Walter in front

In 1908 Charles went alone to Leola, South Dakota. This was where some of the last frontier remained, and where he had to go to get his own land. This was where he made a homestead and built a sod shack. In 1910 Walter again rejoined his father and worked on the farm in South Dakota. Esther went to South Dakota in 1911. Ruth later joined them in 1912.



Charles (C.A.) Broberg and Anna Sophia Bergstrom – August 25, 1893

Esther Anna Helena Broberg (b.7-30-1895, d.7-11-1985) was married on June14, 1913, to **George Henry Christine Sartorius**.



This is to Certify

THAT

George H. Sartorius
Ludington, Mich. (PLACE OF BIRTH) Feb. 14th (DATE OF BIRTH) 1885

AND

Esther A. H. Broberg
Atwater, Minn. (PLACE OF BIRTH) July 30th (DATE OF BIRTH) 1894

were joined together in the bonds of

Holy Matrimony

at Rainy Butte, N. D. on the 4 day of June in the year of our Lord 1913

At Rainy Butte Home by [illegible] Clergyman

WITNESSES

Brother Walter Broberg
Friend Ruth Covell

"Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."

—Matthew 19:6

NFR-10

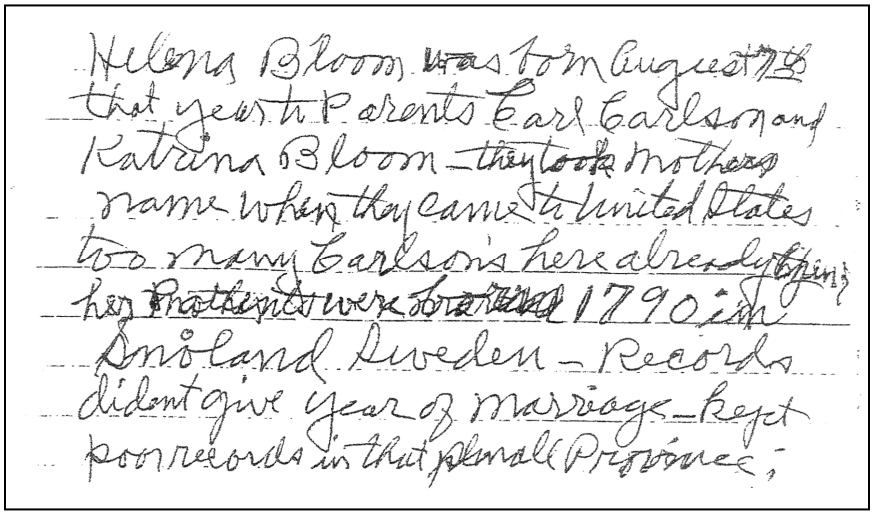
Esther Broberg and George Sartorius Wedding June 4, 1913.
Esther age 19 – George age 29

They took Ruth with them (she was cognitively impaired due to a doctor giving her the wrong medicine when she was young). Ruth was later put in a home in Grafton, North Dakota. Nothing further is known of Charles or Ruth. Esther and George's residence in 1911 was in South Dakota.

Esther Broberg on the occasion of her confirmation in St. Paul, Minnesota, May 23, 1909 age 14.

Esther Broberg Satorius in the early 1980's

Esther Broberg's words in her own handwriting


Helena Bloom was born August 7th that year to Parents Carl Carlson and Katrina Bloom – they took Mothers name when they came to United States too many Carlson's here already then her Brothers were born 1790 in Smöland Sweden – Records didn't give year of marriage – Kept poor records in that part of Province;

Esther Broberg Sartorius by granddaughter Dorothy (Dot) Annette McGowan.

Esther was a kind hearted and unconditionally loving. She was generous to all church charities and missions for the poor when she was actually depriving herself of things she could have easily used. Gram was my mentor and hero as I grew up. She had a very hard life from the age of seven when her mother, Anna, passed away in St. Paul, Minnesota, at the age of 29 following the birth of her sixth child. Esther was sent to live in a Lutheran Orphanage in Vasa, Minnesota, until she was nearly fifteen. The other three children who survived infancy were scattered among other relatives.

Their father, C. A. Broberg, (Helena Blom Broberg's oldest child) moved west to try his hand at farming in the Badlands of North Dakota. He built a soddy. When Esther was fifteen, she went west to keep house for her dad and younger brother, Walter, who had gone out there about a year earlier. Ruth was the youngest daughter, and she was ill. She joined the family in 1913. She suffered from what my Gram called "feeblemindness". She was eventually institutionalized until her death in 1971. Youngest son, Albert, never lived in the Badlands.

Four Generation Picture:
Helena Blom Broberg, Carl August Broberg- son
Esther Broberg Satorius-granddaughter
Marvin Satorius-great-grandson

Dot Behling and daughter Sarah Kraft from the Broberg family

Esther met and married my grandfather, George Sartorius, who was from Ludington, Michigan, out there in Amidon, North Dakota. They had four children while there. My mother, Helen, was the youngest. Needless to say, farming AND the Badlands were not compatible. Even C. A. Broberg found a new career as a shopkeeper and postmaster in order to survive. George and Esther pulled up stakes and headed east to Wisconsin. It was here that they bought land to farm. They earned a meager living at that, and they also sold rabbits, chickens and eggs to the townspeople in Marinette, Wisconsin, and Menominee, Michigan. Gram and grandpa only had electricity as a modern convenience. They got their water from a well located in a pump house, and it was taken inside in a porcelain-lined pan. We used a dipper to drink it. Esther's cook stove was an old cast iron range that burned wood, and it had a reservoir that kept some water warm with the heat of the stove. It had an oven, and she baked bread, buns and pies twice a week. In a tiny room off the downstairs bedroom was a commode that was mainly used at night. There was a two-seater outhouse to use during the daylight. There was no telephone or television – only grandpa's radio. Whenever an advertisement would come on the air, he turned the volume down, so he wouldn't be bothered with listening to that. In the winter we heated the house by a kerosene space heater at night and the cook stove during the day. This is the way things went until my grandfather's passing in 1970. Then Esther moved to Appleton, Wisconsin, where her son, C. Marvin, and daughter, Helen, and their families were living. She lived with us for the remaining fifteen years of her life. Now she had the modern things most people had been using and couldn't be without. I never once heard her complain or mention her body being in pain.

Our sweet, devoted Esther went into the loving arms of our Heavenly Father on July 11, 1985, leaving a huge void in the hearts of all who ever knew her. Her life's blood and saintly traits will live on in her descendants.

Albert and Walter Broberg
Early 1940s

Albert Sophis Wilhelm Broberg *(b. Feb 3, 1903, d. Aug 7, 1972) married* ***Dorris Clipper*** (b. 3-15-1905) on August 16, 1929, in Minneapolis. They moved to Chicago to live. Later they moved to Whittier, California near Los Angeles. He had a son named George Albert Broberg (b. 7-3-1930). George married Margene Lee Markley on August 20, 1955. They had three children: David Broberg born in 1956 (not the author), Georgine Broberg and Bruce Broberg born in October of 1962. Albert died in his car from a heart attack he suffered while on vacation in Wisconsin on August 7, 1972.

Robert, Sharon, and Walter, 1946

Above: Walter, Florence, Robert and Warren, 1930

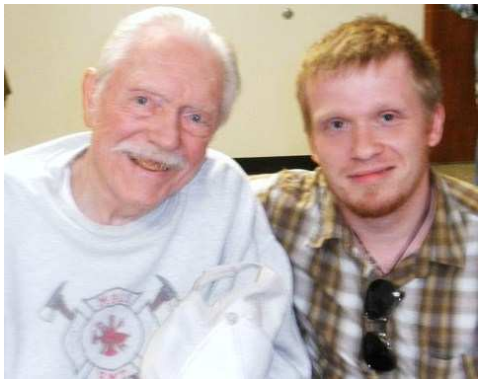
Left: Walter and Florence Broberg (Perhaps their 25th Anniversary in 1948)

Walter Clarence Angsar Broberg (b. 5-9-1897, d. 5-17-1957) spent most of his childhood on farms except for about three years in St. Paul. He suffered from many childhood accidents. Perhaps the worst accident was when he fell off a load of gravel and the rear wheel ran over his abdomen. It was a miracle he had survived since the doctor hadn't given him a chance. Years later he suffered from appendicitis and gall stones. Internal injuries may have contributed. He was very fond of the animals on the farms and had many pets himself. In 1916 Walter moved to St. Paul and worked in plumbing. After this he went back to South Dakota for a while and back to Atwater to do carpentry work. In 1921 he moved to Minneapolis and met **Florence Anderson** (b. 6-20-1898 d. 1-13-1995). They were married in 1923. A year later they had their first child **Robert Neil Carlton Broberg** (b. 12-31-24 d. 6-26-2011). They moved into the house at 2933 Garfield in April of 1925. Next came **Warren Keith Broberg** (b. 8-13-28 d. July 21, 1975). The youngest, and only daughter, **June Ramona Broberg** came last (b. 6-2-1931). Walter Broberg died in 1957 after a series of heart attacks in his final years. Florence lived in the same house on Garfield Avenue for almost seventy years until her death on January 13, 1995 as the result of a heart attack. She was five months short of her ninety-seventh birthday.

Robert Broberg married **Mary Louise Robbins** (b. 8-23-1925) on October 28, 1944. Robert (Bob) and Mary lived at 3200 Pleasant in Minneapolis for close to thirty years until Robert retired from the Minneapolis Fire Department. They moved up to their lake place in Bowstring, Minnesota shortly after, recently moving back down near the twin cities to be closer to their children and grandchildren. They had seven children: **Sharon, Sandra, Robert Jr., Kathleen, Bruce, Bradley and Karen**. June Broberg married **Richard (Dick) Nelson** on May 24, 1952. They now reside in Eagan. They had three children: **Nancy, Wendy and Gary**.

Robert Neal Carlton Broberg by his grandson Adam Albert Broberg Carrier

Robert N. Broberg
Circa 1942



Robert Broberg and his grandson Adam Albert Broberg Carrier, May, 2011

From an early age, Robert was faced with big obstacles and worked through them with grit and determination. Two things he kept with him until his dying days. He was stricken with Polio as a young child and was partially paralyzed in his left leg and neck. He worked hard to strengthen the affected areas. He would do muscle exercises with his neck as he walked his paper route, and he would do one-legged squats to strengthen his leg and foot. By his teenage years, his neck was thick with muscle, and his "polio leg" was almost stronger than his other leg. Shortly before his seventeenth birthday, disaster struck the nation. The Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. There were a group of boys in the neighborhood that spoke of joining the Navy, sailing the world and "getting into the middle of the action". Not being of legal age to serve, Robert discussed it with his parents, and they agreed to give parental consent. The next year he was off for training at the Great Lakes Naval Academy, and later the Underwater Demolition Training Academy, the very first Navy SEALs training facility, in Solomons, Maryland. Although he was permanently disabled due to Polio, his left foot and left leg were both shorter than the other, he was able to disguise and hide those aspects from recruiters and instructors. He spent the rest of the South Pacific Campaign sailing from Island to Island behind the action, making sure Islands were secure for the Allied forces. He saw considerable enemy fire, and was actually hit by shrapnel in his chest, the lumps from which were visible for the rest of his life.

(Left to Right) Bob and Mary Broberg in 1944, 1961, and 1994

On a break from the war, he was stateside for a while, during this time he married his boyhood sweetheart, Mary Robbins. He shipped out shortly after, and spent the remainder of the war in Europe and North Africa. After returning, he became more interested in doing what he had always loved: working with his hands, in any aspect. He had been a farmhand on his older cousin's farm as a youth, so hard, back breaking work was all he'd ever known. He worked for a time in a motorcycle shop, which started a love affair with

motorcycles that he shared with his brother, Warren. But his true love was carpentry, and cabinet making. He started his cabinet making and carpentry making business, *Better Built By Broberg* out of his house in the mid-1950s, and served as the local carpenter/cabinet maker of choice to the local community, friends, and family for many years. Looking for steady work, he applied to the Minneapolis Post Office for work as a mailman. In those days, there was a big campaign to hire the disabled, mainly because so many young adults at that time had been stricken with Polio at a young age. On the application he put down that he was disabled as a result of contracting Polio as a child, and was also a wounded veteran. In doing so, it was determined that he was "too disabled" to deliver mail. Scorned by this rejection, he applied for the toughest job he knew of. He applied for a job on the Minneapolis Fire Department, where he went on to serve for twenty six years. To the end, he showed that same grit and determination, perhaps never more evident, than in his last six months, when he fought valiantly through a diagnosis of terminal Leukemia. The battle was finally over on June 26, 2011. He was gone at the age of 86.

Left: Robert atop a grain elevator in Casabalanca, Morocco, 1945.

Right: Robert at home in Minneapolis prior to European Campaign, 1944.

To a lot of people Robert Neal Carlton Broberg was their WWII hero and Navy man, or their big strong fireman who saved people. Or just simply the guy who would go out of his way to have fun with his children and grand children, whether it was cross-country road trips, fishing trips, camping, or flooding the back yard in the winter so his kids and the neighbor kids could ice skate. To me, most of those aspects of his life were not lost on me, but were before my time. It did add to the mythical carpenter/lumberjack/outdoorsman/firefighter/war hero I thought he was. But to me, most importantly he was a Shriner. My mother asked me some time ago if I felt a special kinship with him because of our physical disabilities. He with the after affects of Polio, and me with Spina bifida. I answered her with a no, even though it was not quite the truth. Part of me did not want to reveal any of the conversations I know neither of us have ever shared with anyone else. I did feel a bond, but the word kinship, to me felt far short. He was my hero. My birth and early childhood were not easy, and as I grew, my parents were in need of a stable place where I could get in-depth, specialized medical care. This is where my grandpa stepped in. He sponsored me and I was able to receive the medical care I needed from Shriner's Hospital for Children until the age of 18. I was not aware of this until I was older. He is in more ways than one, the reason I am able to stand here and talk to you today. Looking back, it seems like I'd known my whole life my grandpa had a disability, or was affected from one he had as a child. From a very young age, he began to talk to me one on one, about not letting anybody tell me what I couldn't do. He himself was guilty of this a time or two, but I never felt restricted by it because it was either things I had no interest in doing, or I felt I was not ready for anyway. And a part of me knew he was trying to protect me. He would tell me about his dad, Walter, who also suffered from Polio, being a "cripple", as he put it, but I never really took offense to that. I remember him telling me these stories when I was very little and not quite understanding why. He would tell me that there will be people as I grow up that won't think I can do things and if you let them win, you'll lose. He used to ask me if people knew I was disabled. I would say no, because most people who don't really know me real well, don't know. He would always reply with: "good! It's none of their @%#&$ business!" As I got older the stories about the treatment from other children he received because of his

disability, or because his father was disabled, became fewer and fewer, and his message he was trying to deliver to me became simpler, but I began to understand it more. Don't give up, you can do anything you want to do, and don't listen to anyone that tells you that you can't or that you're inferior. As I got older, things got tougher, but I always got a pick me up from my grandpa, he always knew, and always told me

I could do anything. I would complain about certain things, or certain people, and he would say something like… "that's horse$#!%!" or "Aw bull$#!%!" When I graduated from high school, he didn't gush, he just simply said "good job kid, I told you". I knew what he meant, that's all I needed. As things began to get harder for me in college, he never waivered. And he actually started to gush more. He would introduce me to people as "this is my grandson, he's going to be a sports announcer on the radio." I was never going to be a sports announcer on the radio, I wanted to be a sports writer for a newspaper at the time, but that's not the point. He was proud of me because I found something I was good at, really wanted to do, and was ignoring anyone that said I couldn't do it. At the party after my graduation ceremony from college I got the same simple congratulations from my grandpa. "Good job kid, I told you." Again, I knew what he meant, that's all I needed. He asked me what I wanted to do for a career. I told him I wanted to be a teacher. He told me I'd be good at it, and to make sure I loved doing it, and to be the best teacher I possibly could. Even through his Alzheimer's in the last few years, he still remembered his message to me. Don't give up, and don't let people tell you that you can't do something. I grew up with two strong-willed parents, who helped shape who I was, but I would like to think those pep talks I got from my grandpa at an early age, that I was just a little too young to understand at the time, had a big part in shaping who I am. To this day, the best way to get me to do something, is to tell me I can't do it. I like to think that's the stubborn Swede in me, shaped by the most stubborn Swede I've ever known. Better Built By Broberg. I feel as though I was a project, and it's up to me to finish it to the point of where he would feel proud of me. But it's not just about what he did for me, it's what he stood for, and what he believed should be done for the other people and the things he cared about. He wasn't always popular in his opinions, but he never waivered. He stuck to his guns. If you spent even a little bit of time with him, you knew instantly what he was about and what he stood for. The following is something he wrote about a particular experience aboard the LST 339 in I believe July of 1944. He wrote about the mundane parts of his days, where there was just a lot of waiting, but this particular line struck a nerve with me. He speaks of a dogfight between the LST 339 and some Japanese bombers off shore of Rendova Island, in the Solomon Islands. The LST and its accompanying destroyers were able to defeat the bombers that day. It reads as follows: "None of the sixteen (enemy) bombers returned to their base on that Fourth of July, and we were glad we had taken part in the celebration. It was Independence Day and that's what we were fighting for, for those we love and wish to see for always." Shortly before this was written, he got a tattoo on his forearm with the words "death before dishonor" across it. I would like to say mission accomplished grandpa. He may be gone now, but he will never be forgotten. Every time I smell wood smoke, I'll think of him. Every time I smell Skoal Bandits, I'll think of him. Every time I hear a chainsaw in the distance, I'll think of him. Every time I hear the soft buzz of a fishing line being cast, I'll think of him. Every time an old man yells at me, I'll think of him. There is an old philosophy that says that a person doesn't die until the last person who remembers them dies, or there are no more stories to tell. That is the job that has been passed on to us. Share your stories of Robert Neal Carlton Broberg, and all of your other relatives who have now passed on, with the younger generation, and the youngest generation. We remember these stories, and we will pass them on, and their memory and their legacy will live on forever. I know every time I accomplish a goal I have set for myself I will hear a voice in my head. "Good job kid, I told you."

Clippings of Robert's various advertising appearances he made in the Minneapolis Star Tribune in the 1970s

Sharon and Dan Schirer with Florence (Robert Broberg's mother)

Sharon Lee Broberg (8-22-1946) was the first born child to Robert and Mary Broberg. She graduated from Minneapolis Central High School in 1964. She married **M. Daniel Schirer** in 1967 and later earned her degree from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. They had two children; **Michael Allen** and **Rebecca Ann**. They were divorced and she later married **Robert John Moeller**. They had one daughter; **Rachel Mary**. Michael was in the Army and served in Desert Storm. He married Veronica and they have one son, Niko.

Sandra's Wedding
Back Row L to R: Robert, Bruce, Robert Jr. Dan Schirer, Sandra, Ron, Kathleen.

Front Row L to R: Mary, Karen, Bradley, Sharon (seated)

Sandra Lou Broberg (9-11-1947) was the second born child to Robert and Mary Broberg. She graduated from Minneapolis Central High School in 1965. She married **Ronald Ira Scott** in 1968. They have two sons, **Ron Jon**, and **Cary Allen**. Ronald is a Navy veteran of both Vietnam and Desert Storm. He is a retired Minneapolis Police Officer. Cary is a veteran and is now serving as a boarder guard in Texas.

Robert Jr. and Robert Sr.

Lois, Robert Jr., Sandra and Ron

Robert N. Broberg Jr. (4-27-1949) was the first born son to Robert and Mary Broberg. He graduated from Minneapolis Central High School in 1967. He joined the Navy and served in. He married **Lois Hagan** in 1976. They had three children; **Robert III**, **Richard Allen** and **Charles Ulyssus**. Lois passed away from cancer in 1989. Robert Jr. married **Kathryn Ann Lascon** in 1990. She passed away in 2007.

Charles (Chucky) married Stacey. They have two children; Terrell and Trinity.

Chuck, Stacey, Terrell and Trinity, 2010

Robert III, Robert Sr. and Jerry III 1994

Left: Kathleen and Robert
Right: Kathleen and Jerry

April 18, 1970

Kathleen Marie Broberg (8-21-1950) was the third daughter and fourth overall child born to Robert and Mary Broberg. She graduated from Minneapolis Central High School in 1968. She later earned her degree from St. Cloud State. She met **Jerry James Carrier Jr,** a recent veteran, while she was going to the University of Minnesota. They married in 1970. They have four children; **Jessica Rose** (9-25-70), **Jerry James III** (10-31-71), **Amy Louise** (2-17-74), and **Adam Albert Broberg Carrier** (1-20-82). Amy married **Shaun Koza** and joined the Air Force. They had one son, **Brandon Christopher** (6-16-95). They later divorced. She later married **Ryan Shawn Emery** and they have three children; **Ethan Clifford**, **Henry William**, and **Kathleen Allison**. Jessica was a union organizer in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Florida, and Nevada for over a decade. She married **James Alan Friedman** (10-5-65). They have two children; **Madeline Jane**, and **Lucy Rose**. Jerry III graduated from Mankato State University and is partner in a medical supply company serving the upper Midwest.

Adam, Rashad and Robert Sr. on Little Jessie Lake, Bowstring, MN

Robert, Jerry III, Adam, Jessica, Brandon, Kathleen, Amy and Mary
1997

Kathleen, Ethan and Milla, Madeline and Elliott, Amelia, Lucy, Henry and Kadence
2011

Bruce Keith Broberg (10-27-1951) was the second born son and fifth child born to Robert and Mary Broberg. He graduated from Minneapolis West High School in 1969. He joined the Navy shortly after High School and served for a short time. He moved out to Hawaii and then settled in Seattle. He married **Etchika "Rika" Reining** and they had two daughters, **Gabrielle Solonge**, and **Ghyslaine Mercedes**.

Ghyslaine, Bruce, Gabrielle, Robert and Mary

Bradley Scott Broberg (8-17-1957) was the third born son and sixth child born to Robert and Mary Broberg. He graduated from an alternative high school in Minneapolis in 1975. He joined the Navy afterwards and served for a short time. He married **Jody Lynn Northenscold** and they had five boys; **Isaac Peter**, **Luke Martin**, **Simon Stephen**, **Noah Nels**, and **Isaiah Magnus**. They later divorced. Isaac married **Susan Sun** and they have two children; **Milla Wanli** and **Elliott Hansheng**. Luke, now known as **Mujahid Shajehan**, married **Juvaria**, and they now have one son, **Hafsah**.

Back Row: Susan, Isaac with Milla, Isaiah, Noah, Mujahid.

Front Row: Brad, Robert Sr., Mary and Juvaria

Karen and Robert Broberg at her wedding March 22, 1980

Karen and her husband Robert, 2011.

Karen Sue Broberg (3-6-1961) was the seventh and final child born to Robert and Mary Broberg. She graduated from Minneapolis Central High School in 1979. She also earned her associates degree from Crookston State University. She married **Senan Mustafa (Sadiq)**. They had one son **Rashad (John)**. They later divorced. She married **Robert John Popehn** in 1986. They have three children; **Samantha Jolene**, **Zachary Robert**, and **Montana Jackson**.

Rashad and Alicia 2010

Rashad graduated from Lakeville High School. He received his degree from Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota. He married **Alicia Anne Tvedt** (of no relation to the Anna C. Bloom Tvedts), in 2011.

Riley and Samantha 2011

Isaiah and Samantha 2011

Samantha graduated from Lakeville North High School and received her degree from Concordia College in St. Paul. She has one son; **Riley Marcos**. She married **Isaiah Maring** in 2012.

Isaiah, Zach, Rashad, Noah, Brad, Tanner, Adam and Jerry.

Left: Robert's 86th Birthday. 2010 Right: Last full family photo. 2006.

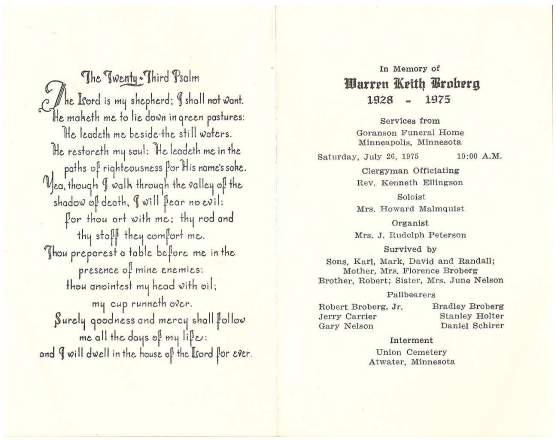
Robert and Warren Broberg in their Navy and Marine uniforms.

Warren Keith Broberg (b. 8-13-1928, d. 7-21-1975) was like his father in many ways. Instead of falling off of horses as his dad had done, Warren fell off motorcycles. He had ridden motorcycles since his teenage years. He often raced them on "Hill-Climbs". He broke several bones on these adventures.

Left: Robert on the back of Warren's Motorcycle. Right: Warren, Robert and friend George Holter. 1946.

In 1945 he joined the United States Marine Corps as World War II was ending. He was released in 1949. He rejoined in 1950 and went to California to train soldiers in small arms. He met **Marilyn Jeanne Krause** while he was stationed in San Diego. They married on November 24, 1951. After his release from the Marines, he worked as a mail carrier in Hollywood, California. They had a house built in North Hollywood. **Karl Walter Broberg** was born there on December 4, 1953. In 1954 they moved back to Minneapolis and stayed with Warren's parents (Walter and Florence) for about a year. They bought the house at 2505 Pleasant and moved in March, 1955. Here **Mark Warren Broberg** was born on April 5, 1955. **David Kenneth Broberg** was born there on July 23, 1956. Warren worked as a cabinetmaker until 1958 when he became a foreman carpenter. He worked on many of the apartments that were built during that time in the area**. Randall Keith Broberg** was born on February 24, 1961. Later that year, Warren went to work for the Minneapolis Fire Department. Around 1965 Marilyn also began doing secretarial work with insurance companies. The family had taken many auto trips and had been in nearly every state in the main forty-eight. They divorced in 1969. Warren was hospitalized with a diagnosis of "schizophrenic-paranoia". The four children were totally separated by 1970. Karl went to live with his grandmother (Florence), Mark was put in a group foster home on the north side of Minneapolis. David was placed in a foster home in Eden Prairie, Minnesota after a short stay at his Uncle Bob's. Randy had gone away with his mother. Time eventually healed all wounds except Warren's. He went in and out of hospitals and was permanently retired with disability from the fire department. He never overcame his loss of love and shut himself off from the rest of the family. He occasionally visited his sons and stayed with his mother from time to time. Warren took his own life on July 21, 1975. He was buried in Atwater, Minnesota.

Karl, Mark, David and Randy



The Twenty-Third Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me; thy rod and
thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the
presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow
me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

In Memory of
Warren Keith Broberg
1928 - 1975

Services from
Goranson Funeral Home
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Saturday, July 26, 1975 10:00 A.M.

Clergyman Officiating
Rev. Kenneth Ellingson

Soloist
Mrs. Howard Malmquist

Organist
Mrs. J. Rudolph Peterson

Survived by
Sons, Karl, Mark, David and Randall;
Mother, Mrs. Florence Broberg
Brother, Robert; Sister, Mrs. June Nelson

Pallbearers
Robert Broberg, Jr. Bradley Broberg
Jerry Carrier Stanley Holter
Gary Nelson Daniel Schirer

Interment
Union Cemetery
Atwater, Minnesota

Warren's funeral announcement

The four sons were reunited in Dallas in 1972. **Randy** had been living there with his mother and stepfather. He graduated from Trinity Christian Academy and went to Stanford University in 1979. During the summer of 1981 he studied abroad in Greece and Rome. Randall Broberg continued to live with his mother and stepfather in Dallas.

Mark (17) rode his motorcycle down from Minneapolis. He married **Lana Kay Tenin McFarland** on May 25, 1978. He adopted her son, **Michael Stephen McFarland Broberg** (b. 2-20-1975). They had a daughter named **Mindy Louise Broberg** on October 26, 1979. After several years with the Sears Automotive Department, he opened his own business "Born Again Cars". He does auto restoration, repairs, purchase and sales.

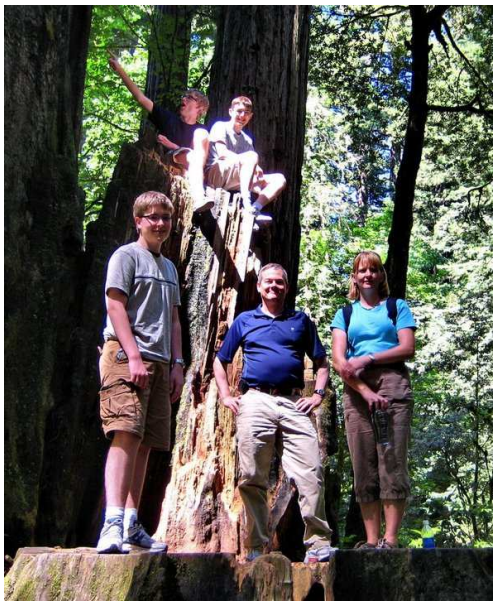
Karl (18) and David (16) made an attempt to ride ten-speed bicycles down from Minneapolis, but they got a ride from southern, Illinois. **Karl** graduated from West High School in 1971. He joined the Army in 1973 and was stationed in Okinawa, Japan. He never finished his formal education but became independent by the age of seventeen. He made Dallas his home. He began working as an auto mechanic in 1972. After his release from the Army, Karl returned to Minneapolis to reclaim it as home. He married **Pat Prior** in September of 1982.

David and Karl, Military Men

Right: David and his racing trophies

David Broberg (b. 7-23-1956) graduated from Hillcrest High School in Dallas, Texas, in 1974. He also made it his home. Although all of the four brothers enjoyed riding motorcycles to some extent, David was the most serious enthusiast. Following somewhat in his father's footsteps, he rode motorcycles in numerous competitive events. He won many trophies for his efforts in drag racing and observed trials. He never suffered any serious wrecks in his competition. He joined the United States Air Force in 1975. He married **Linda Louise Acker** on December 31, 1975. He then returned to the Dallas area after his discharge. They had a home built in Grand Prairie. David graduated from Mountain View College in 1980 with an Associate in Applied Arts and Sciences (Electronic Technology). After a few years with Sony

Video Products Company, David opened his own business, “New Technology and Service Corporation”, that was a business to repair professional video equipment. In 1981 he sold his business, and they moved to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He worked as an inventor. **Jana Renea Broberg** was born in Dallas on May 5, 1982.



Colin, Austin, Kenny, David and Rebecca Broberg

Redwood Forest 2010

Back Row (L to R):
June, Marilyn, Bruce, Dick, Robert Jr., Warren, Robert Sr.

Middle Row (L to R):
Mark, Florence, Karl, Sandra, Sharon, Mary, Kathleen

Front Row (L to R):
Karen, Randy, Gary, Bradley, David, Wendy, Nancy, 1967.

Back Row (L to R):
Randy, Karl, Mark, Robert Jr., David, Brad, Gary

Front Row (L to R):
Karen, Sharon, Kathleen, Nancy, Wendy and Sandra, 1975

Broberg family at census time 1880.
Genessee County, Kandiyohi Township, Minnesota

1880 United States Census

Census Place: Genessee, Kandiyohi, Minnesota
Source: FHL Film 1254624 National Archives Film T9-0624 Page 105A

	Relation	Sex	Marr	Race	Age	Birthplace
Magnus BROBERG	**Self**	**M**	**M**	**W**	**45**	**SWE**
Helena BROBERG	Wife	F	M	W	40	SWE
August BROBERG	Son	M		W	16	MN
Eliza I. BROBERG	Dau	F	S	W	12	MN
Martha S. BROBERG	Dau	F	S	W	10	MN
Hannah M. BROBERG	Dau	F	S	W	3	MN
Hilda A. BROBERG	Dau	F	S	W	10M	MN

Hannah Broberg, above, was lame and died in 1900

Josephine Broberg Olson and her sister, Martha Broberg Peterson taken in Minnesota - 1940.

Esther Sartorius (Helen Broberg Family), Laura Rose, Emma Strand, Winnie Bloom, Walter Broberg. Emma Strand's House

Long Illness Ends in Death.

The dark robed angel of death visited an Atwater home Sunday morning at 6 o'clock and claiming as its prize a loving mother, making heavy with sorrow the hearts of loved ones. Mrs. Helena Broberg passed quietly and peacefully into eternal rest after a long illness at the age of 76 years, 6 months and 18 days.

The news of her death, while not unexpected, brot a feeling of deep sadness to every heart in Atwater, for Mrs. Broberg was dearly beloved by all who know her. She was one of the first members of the Swedish Lutheran church of this place and a devoted worker in it as long as her strength permitted.

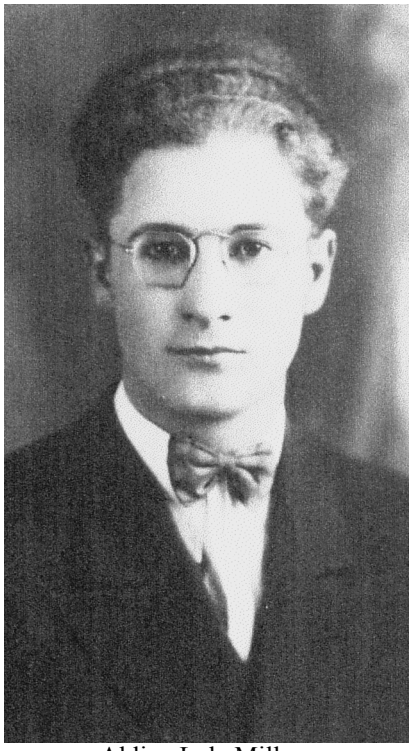
Mrs. Helena Broberg, nee Helena Bloom, was born in Smaland, Sweden, Aug. 7, 1840. Came to America and settled in Centre City in 1868, moved to Genneseee 1876 and to Atwater 16 years ago. She lost her husband in 1906, also five children, four sons and one daughter gone before. She leaves to mourn her loss one son and four daughters: Carl of Rainy Butte, N. D., Mrs. N. P. Peterson of Sutherlin, Oregon, Mrs. Geo. E. Peterson of Olivia, Minn., Mrs. J. W. Miller and Mrs. Theo. Olson of this place, also 17 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren, and a large number of other relatives.—Atwater Press.

The funeral services were held at the home at 2 o'clock and at the Swedish Lutheran church at 2:30, last Friday afternoon, Rev. M. Levander officiating. The church was packed with sorrowing friends and the floral tributes were numerous and beautiful. Interment was made in the Union Cemetery beside her husband.

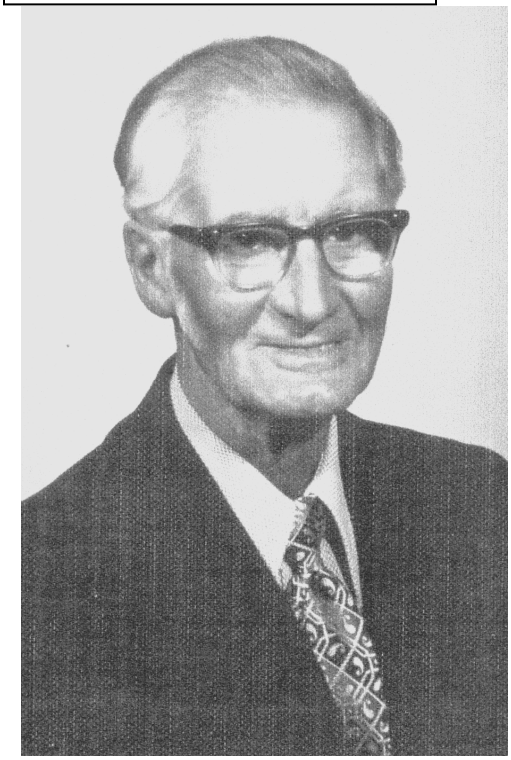
Those from out-of-town who attended the funeral were: Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Peterson of Olivia, Miss Myrtle Peterson of Minneapolis, Mrs. Blom and son and David and Chas. Blom of Center City, Mr. Ystrom of Osceola, Wis., O. A. Olson, Mrs. Axel Johnson and Mrs. A. Borden of Litchfield, and Miss Emma Lemke of Darwin.

Josephine Broberg on her 93rd birthday
August 6, 1976

Hilda Augusta Broberg married John William Miller and had two children: Aldine Lyle Miller and Lorraine Helen Evelyn Miller



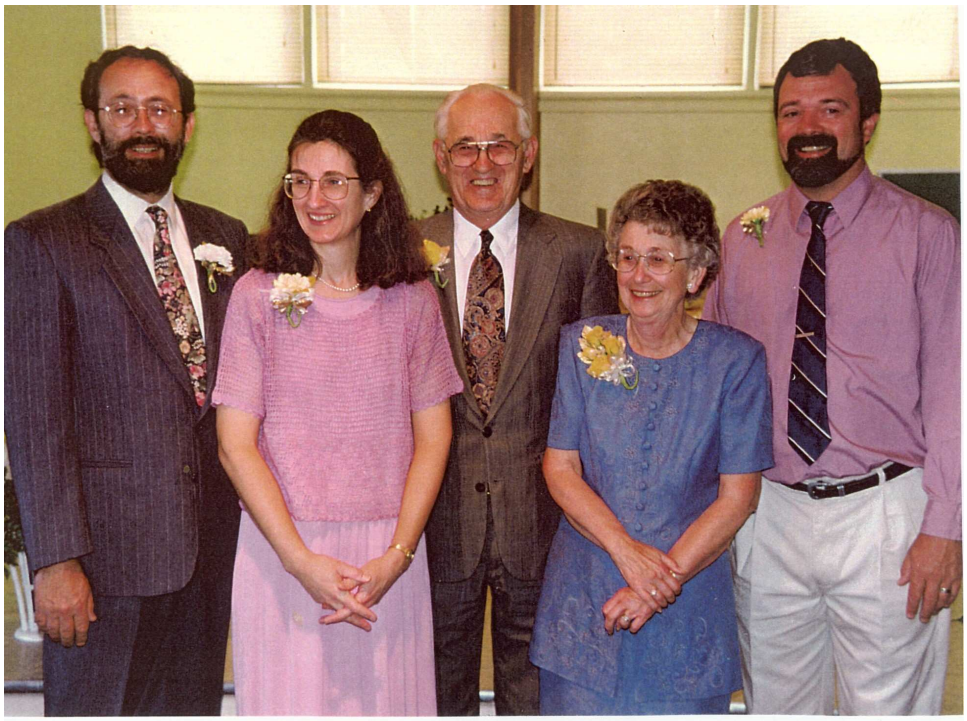
Aldien Lyle Miller
b.12-24-1907 d.12-28-1983 also →→



Vernon and Lorraine Miller Brown

← ←Lorraine Miller b. 12-4-1910, d. 5-31-1992

Below: Stromsness Family Reunion 2002. Includes: Carl and Carol Stromsness, Arthur, Helen, grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild, spouses of children and grandchildren.



Above: Helen and Arthur Stromsness and children :
50th Wedding Anniversary 9-14-1996
(Family of Broberg)

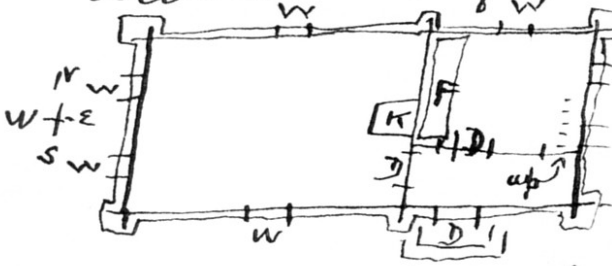
Above: Kenneth Theodore Olson married Florence L. Reiss 11-11-1937
(Family of Broberg).
Their children are Kenneth T. Olson II and Eleanor Olson Blevins

Josephine Rebecca Broberg married Theodore Harry Olson 7-26-1906

Letter from Sweden from Anton Rose to his Uncle Frank Bloom
(Helena's Nephew) - 1929

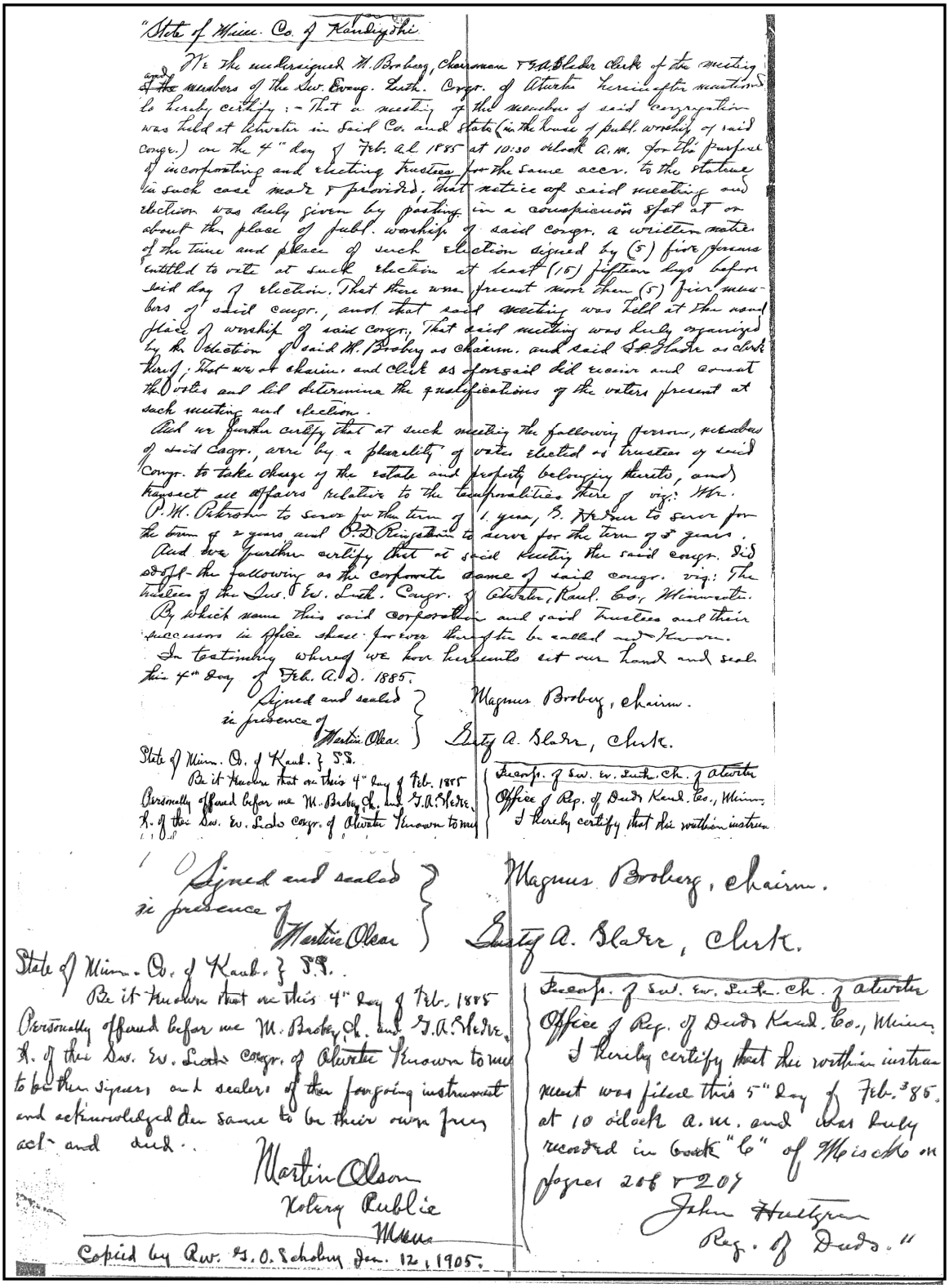
Frank

This Old Bloom house - -
is very interesting! The little
chimney is on the part that was
added after Lars Bloms days -
and probably after grandpa
came to Am. The line in
the wall betw. the door and the
far window is the old "Knut"
the line near the door - on this
side - is a partition - partitions
were also of timber. All the
rooms had low ceilings - and
stairway is very narrow. Much
of Smaland architecture re-
minds me of New England.



was cut away in center to fit in an iron
~~stove~~ - bum job - spoiled good effect.
K - home made tile ~~fire pl~~ "Kakelung".
I in west upstairs room was the oddest
"Kakelung" I have ever seen. This room
was the "Office" In the S. room was
a very nice fire place - and in it - an
alembic!

Minutes of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church of Atwater, Minnesota. 1885



"State of Minn. Co. of Kandiyohi

We the undersigned M. Broberg, Chairman & G.A. Blader Clerk of the meeting and the members of the Sw. Evang. Luth. Congr. of Atwater hereinafter mentioned do hereby certify: - That a meeting of the members of said congregation was held at Atwater in said Co. and State (in the house of publ. worship of said Congr.) on the 4th day of Feb. A.D. 1885 at 10:30 o'clock A.M. for the purpose of incorporating and electing trustees for the same accor. to the statute in such case made & provided; that notice of said meeting and election was duly given by posting in a conspicuous place at or about the place of publ. worship of said congr. a written notice of the time and place of such election signed by (5) five persons entitled to vote at such election at least (10) fifteen days before said day of election. That there was present more than (5) five members of said congr., and that said meeting was held at the usual place of worship of said Congr. That said meeting was duly organized by the selection of said M. Broberg as chairm. and said G.A. Blader as clerk thereof; that we as chairm. and clerk as aforesaid did receive and count the votes and did determine the qualifications of the voters present at such meeting and election.

And we further certify that at such meeting the following persons, members of said Congr., were by a plurality of votes elected as trustees of said Congr. to take charge of the estate and property belonging thereto, and transact all affairs relative to the temporalities there of viz: Wm. P.W. Petterson to serve for the term of 1 year, S. Peterson to serve for the term of 2 years and O.A. Reinstrom to serve for the term of 3 years.

And we further certify that at said meeting the said Congr. did adopt the following as the corporate name of said congr. viz: The trustees of the Sw. Ev. Luth. Congr. of Atwater, Kand. Co., Minnesota. By which name this said corporation and said trustees and their successors in office shall forever thereafter be called and known.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hand and seal this 4th day of Feb. A.D. 1885.

Signed and sealed in presence of Martin Olson

Magnus Broberg, Chairm.

Gusty A. Blader, Clerk.

State of Minn. Co. of Kand. } ss.

Be it Remembered that on this 4th day of Feb. 1885 Personally appeared before me M. Broberg Ch. and G.A. Blader, Cl. of the Sw. Ev. Luth. Congr. of Atwater known to me to be the signers and sealers of the foregoing instrument and acknowledged the same to be their own free act and deed.

Martin Olson
Notary Public
Minn

Copied by Rev. P.O. Scholby Dec. 12, 1905.

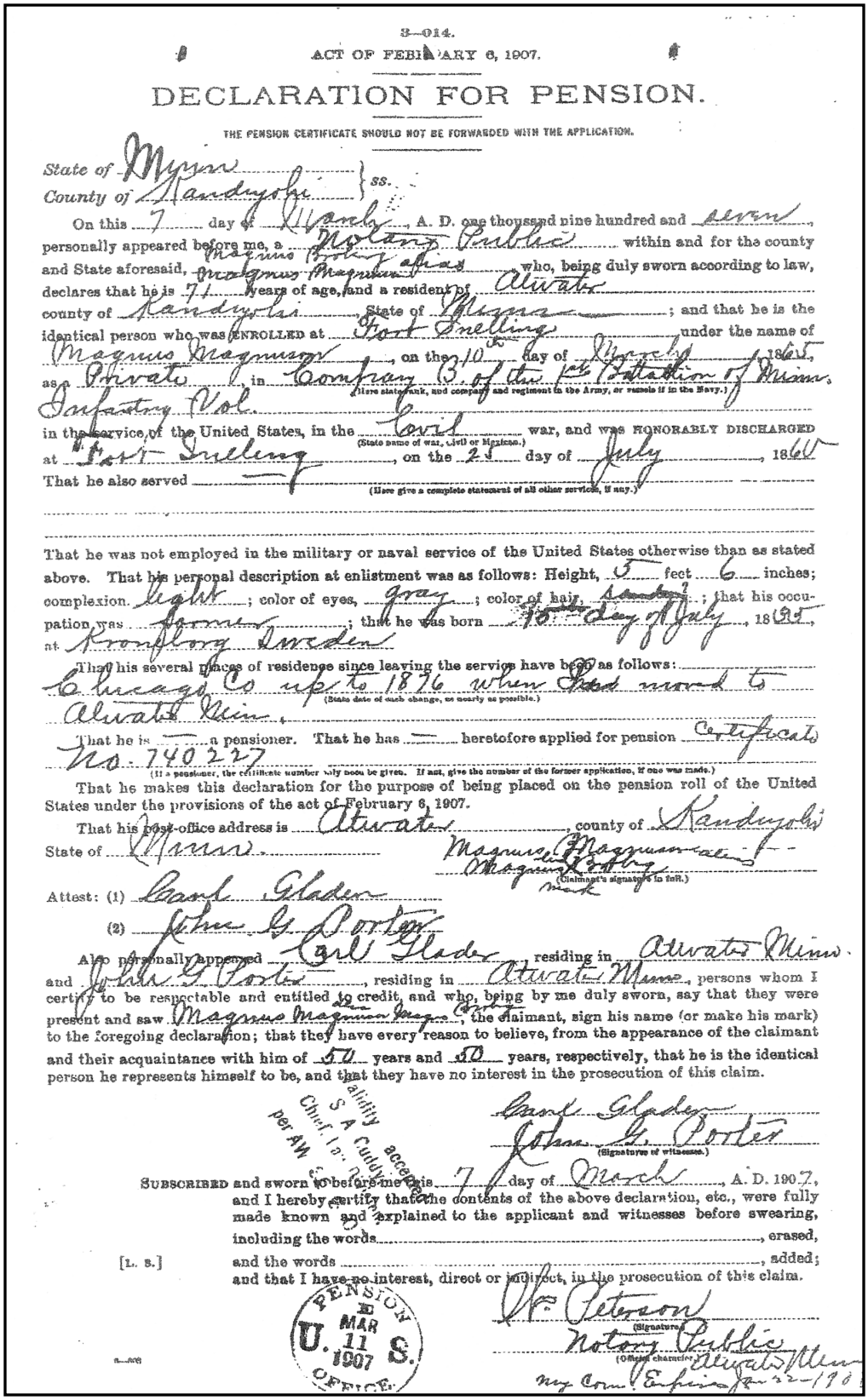
Excerpt. of Sw. Ev. Luth. Ch. of Atwater

Office of Reg. of Deeds Kand. Co., Minn.

I hereby certify that the within instrument was filed this 5th day of Feb. '85. at 10 o'clock a.m. and was duly recorded in book "C" of Miscellaneous pages 206 & 207

John Hultgren
Reg. of Deeds.

Magnus Broberg's Application for a pension from the U.S. Army, Civil War



3—014.

ACT OF FEBRUARY 6, 1907.

DECLARATION FOR PENSION.

THE PENSION CERTIFICATE SHOULD NOT BE FORWARDED WITH THE APPLICATION.

State of Minn. } ss.
County of Kandyohi }

On this 7 day of March, A. D. one thousand nine hundred and seven, personally appeared before me, a Notary Public within and for the county and State aforesaid, Magnus Broberg alias Magnus Magnusson alias Magnus Magnusson Broberg who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is 71 years of age, and a resident of Atwater county of Kandyohi, State of Minn.; and that he is the identical person who was ENROLLED at Fort Snelling under the name of Magnus Magnusson, on the 10th day of March, 1865, as a Private, in Company B of the 1st Battalion of Minn. Infantry Vol. (Here state rank, and company and regiment in the Army, or vessels if in the Navy.)

in the service of the United States, in the Civil war, and was HONORABLY DISCHARGED (State name of war, civil or Mexican.)
at Fort Snelling, on the 23 day of July, 1865

That he also served (Here give a complete statement of all other services, if any.)

That he was not employed in the military or naval service of the United States otherwise than as stated above. That his personal description at enlistment was as follows: Height, 5 feet 6 inches; complexion, light; color of eyes, gray; color of hair, sandy; that his occupation was farmer; that he was born 15th day of July, 1845, at Kronfors Sweden

That his several places of residence since leaving the service have been as follows: Chicago Co up to 1876 when I moved to Atwater Minn. (State date of each change, as nearly as possible.)

That he is —— a pensioner. That he has —— heretofore applied for pension Certificate No. 140227 (If a pensioner, the certificate number only need be given. If not, give the number of the former application, if one was made.)

That he makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the pension roll of the United States under the provisions of the act of February 6, 1907.

That his post-office address is Atwater, county of Kandyohi State of Minn.

Magnus Magnusson alias Magnus Broberg (Claimant's signature in full.)
mark

Attest: (1) Carl Glader
(2) John G. Porter

Also personally appeared Carl Glader, residing in Atwater Minn. and John G. Porter, residing in Atwater Minn., persons whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who, being by me duly sworn, say that they were present and saw Magnus Magnusson alias Broberg, the claimant, sign his name (or make his mark) to the foregoing declaration; that they have every reason to believe, from the appearance of the claimant and their acquaintance with him of 50 years and 40 years, respectively, that he is the identical person he represents himself to be, and that they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

Carl Glader
John G. Porter (Signatures of witnesses.)

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me this 7 day of March, A. D. 1907, and I hereby certify that the contents of the above declaration, etc., were fully made known and explained to the applicant and witnesses before swearing, including the words ——, erased, and the words ——, added; and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

[L. S.]

P. Peterson (Signature)
Notary Public (Official character)
Atwater Minn
my Com. Expires Jan 22—190

Liability S A Cuddy Chief, Loan Branch per AW

PENSION OFFICE MAR 11 1907 U. S.

An affidavit of marriage for Helena and Magnus Broberg, Chisago County, MN for the Pension Office to use to determine an Army pension for Helena

State of Minnesota,)
)
County of Chisago.)

This is to certify that on the Twenty-ninth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty three I did join in the bonds of Matrimony Mr. Magnus Broberg and Miss Helena Blom at Chisago Lake, both of Chisago County after being satisfied that no legal impediments existed thereto.

Done in the presence of Mr G. Blom and G. Collin of Chisago Co., State of Minnesota. Given under my hand at Chisago Lake this 2nd day of October A. D. 1863.

C. A. Nedengran
Swed. Ev.Luth.Pastor

Credentials of Ordaination recored in the office of the Clerk of the District Court Chisago County Minnesota.

Filed and recorded Oct. 9, 1863.

State of Minnesota,)
) ss.
County of Chisago.)

District Court,
Nineteenth Judicial District.

I, P. G. Sausen, Clerk of the District Court, Chisago County and State of Minnesota, do hereby Certify that I have compared the foregoing paper writing with the original Marriage Record now remaining of recored in my office, and that the same is a true and correct copyand transcript of said original and the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Court at Center City, Minnesota, this 17th day of February A. D. 1909.

P. G. Sausen
Clerk District Court,
Chisago County, Minn.

PENSION A FEB 20 1909 U. S. OFFICE

This from the Taylors Falls Journal of 16 Feb 1876.

"Mrs. Magnus Broberg, living in the lower part of Chisago Lake Township, was brewing some home made beer one day last week. She had a tubful of brew setting on the floor of the kitchen and left it for a moment to go into another part of the house, and on coming back, found out that one of her children, a boy about four years old, had fallen into the tub backward. The boy lived for a day and a half." (Chisago Lake Församlingen - Karl Olin, Union Cemetery, Atwater, Taylors Falls Journal of 16 Feb. 1876, 1905 Kandiyohi County History - Victor Lawson, Kandy Kuhr of Neenah, WI (descendant), Växjö Emigrant Institute birth records)

Let me (Milan Bloom) put this story in context:

1. Mrs. Magnus Broberg was our Gustaf Blom's youngest sister.
2. The four year old was Edwin. It is he who died from the tubful of scalding hot brew.
3. I think a member of the Broberg family told me that Helena went into another part of the house for the purpose of checking on her 10 month old son, Anton. Anyway, I do know that Anton had scarlet fever at this time and would die in 13 days.
4. Four year old Edwin died one and one half days after his catastrophic accident and
5. Ten month old Anton died from Scarlet fever 13 days after the accident.
6. The news clip from the Taylors Falls Journal doesn't mention Anton's death because the paper was published one week before he (Anton) died.
7. I believe that it was sometime this year (1876) that the Broberg's sold out to Gustaf Blom and moved to Atwater, Minnesota.

Broberg cemetery plot – Atwater, Minnesota
Magnus Broberg 1835 – 1908, Disabled Civil War Veteran
Helena Blom 1840 – 1917, sister of Gustaf Blom

Chapter 15 Bloom Reunions
Notes From The Secretary's Book

Bloom reunion held after the summer of 1907 and as late as the summer of 1914. Gustaf's second wife, Eling, (b.1829, d.3-21-1915) is sitting in the chair on the right-hand side. Charlie Bloom is in the foreground sitting on the grass leaning to the left.
(ID by Milan Bloom)

The first documented reunion took place at Frank Bloom's home at 30615 Maple St., Lindstrom, Minnesota in 1907. The day was most likely June 5th because Roy Bloom, son of Joseph Bloom, was baptized on June 5th in our Center City Lutheran Church. Since the Joe Bloom's home was over 300 miles north (by modern highway), it is logical to suppose that the baptism took place the day of the reunion. Joseph's brother Edward and wife Wilhelmina were sponsors. Above is the picture of that reunion. Joe Bloom and his wife Della are on the porch (our right) and Joe is holding his one year old son Roy. Whether or not Joe's two year old daughter LaVerna is in the picture I don't know.

These pictures were taken the same day as reunion.

L:to R:: Unk, Roy Bloom, LaVerna Bloom, Unk

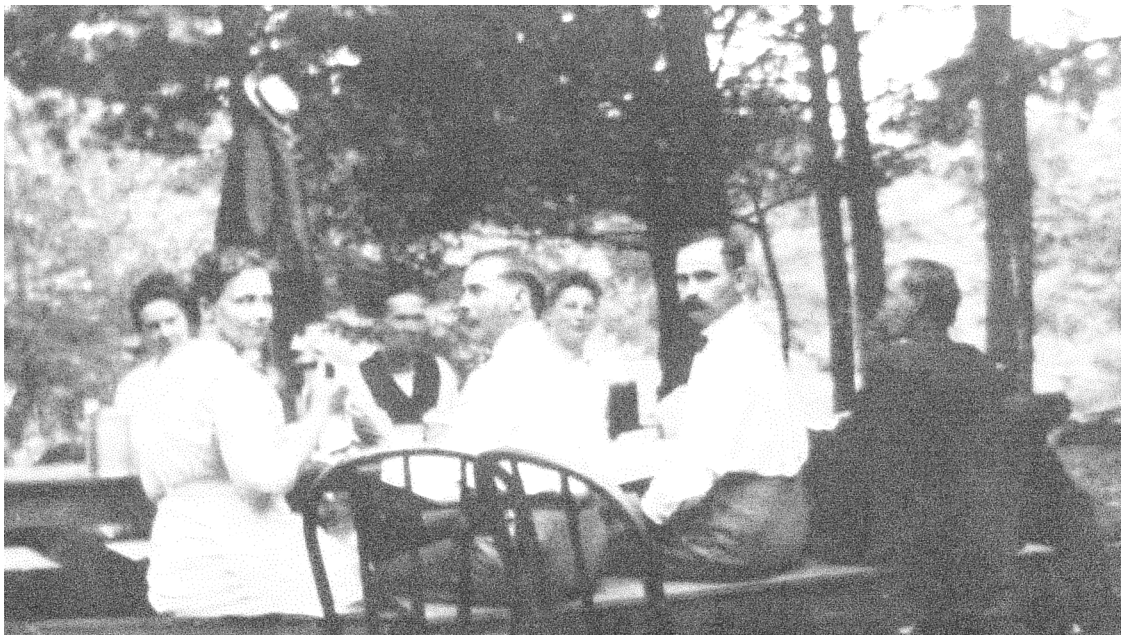
L: is LaVerna R: is Roy

This picture was taken at a Bloom reunion prior to 1929.
Top Row left to right: unknown, Delia (Charlie), unknown, Elvera (David), Edla (Charlie)

Middle Row left to right: unknown, unknown, Glade's (David), Mildred (August)

Bottom Row on the right is Mabel Bloom (August)

Identification by Irene Johnson 7-2001 except Mildred by Marjorie Svedberg July-2001



Reunion date is unknown but it was before 1929 because Charlie (Calle) died in January 1929.
Front row left to right: Edward's wife, Minnie (Della Bloom's first cousin), Alfred, David, Calle
Back row left to right: unknown, Calle's wife Helen (sister to Albert Berg), David's wife, Mary

Above - Left to Right: David, Helen, Minnie (Ed's wife). The rest of the people have not been identified but most likely they are all Bloom brothers, sisters and spouses. Identification by Irene Johnson (David Bloom) July – 2001. Date of this reunion is unknown but it appears to be the same reunion as pictured above because Charlie's wife is wearing the same dress. . That places it prior to 1929.

Reunion at Frank Bloom's place. It must be prior to 1929 because there is no evidence that a reunion took place at Frank Bloom's house on or after 1929. Doug Bloom (Alfred) thinks the lady, standing second from the far right, with the glasses, is Elvice Bloom and possibly the man in the suit, about 5 or 6 people in from the left and crouching behind the kid that has a hat in front of his face, is Wenzel Bloom and the man standing in a suit on the far left, behind the lady with a ribbon on her dress is Alfred Bloom. As far as the reunion date is concerned, Pam Svedberg Flesher(August) places the date at about 1925 because **"There's a lady holding a baby in the center. Behind her, there's a man holding a small child (about age 4) who looks like Reuben Johnson, Mildred Bloom Johnson's husband. The facial features look like his, plus he always parted his hair in the center. If it's Reuben, then the child would be Marge Svedberg. She was born in 1921, so my guess is the picture is from around 1925."** And this from Aaron Bloomquist (Frank)**: "The boy wearing glasses and holding his face with his hands in the front row is Vincent Bloom, son of Frank. He was born in 1912/13, and looks about 12 or 13 in the picture, which corroborates the estimate of 1925. His sister, Lavinia, was born in 1924 and could be one of the children being held in the picture."** Lady in the black dress, in the center, standing behind kids is Emma Bloom Strand.

August 11, 1929 The reunion was held at Emma Bloom Strand's house at Marine. It was at this reunion that the family decided it was desirable to have a reunion secretary, so there are no minutes prior to 1929. Frank Bloom's wife, Ruth, was the first secretary. The duties of the secretary were as follows: secure the meeting place, plan the menu, notify all family members of the date and contribution to the dinner. A collection was taken to defray the cost of the record book, stationary and postage. Seventy-eight cents was collected ($8.05 in 2003 money). The men spent the afternoon playing baseball with the married men against the single men. The married men scored the victory. Reverend Wenzel Bloom baptized Wilbur David Bloom, son of the William Blooms of Taylors Falls, Minnesota. It was noted that Charlie Bloom had died the previous January 16, 1929.

Frank, Ruth and Vincent Bloom 1913

These are stills from the 1928 video. This video was taken at Christine Rose's house in Marine. Can you identify these people (captions are below the pictures)?

David and Mary Bloom

Edna Strand Cotter

At left: is Chester Bloom and Chester Tvedt on the right

Myrtle, Betty and Roy Strand

Carl (Charlie) Bloom

Charlie's wife Helen

Paul Bloom

June 29, 1930 This reunion was held at Russell Beach which was the resort owned by Edward Bloom. At this reunion, the secretary suggested that a chairman be elected in addition to the secretary. New officers were: Roy Strand, chairman, Gilbert Bloom, vice-chairman, Anna Bloom Tvedt secretary. It was decided that Russell Beach would be the reunion site every year. The main feature of the day was the kitten-ball game between married men and single men. The score was 7-6 in favor of the married men.

July 12, 1931 Alfred Bloom was elected chairman, Emil Cottor vice-chairman, and Winnie LeVine the new secretary. The customary ball game was played between the Blooms and the All Stars. The Blooms remained victorious.

1930
Reunion President Roy Strand.
Picture
taken 1986

August 14, 1932 The reunion was held at Russell Beach with 82 present. Patricia Ann won the kitten ball honors. Elected were Chairman August Bloom, Vice-Chairman Paul Bloom, Secretary Elvice Bloom.

August 6, 1933 The reunion was held at Edward Bloom's place at Russell Beach. Honorary President was David's sister, Christine. Elected were Honorary Chairman Christine Rose, Chairman David Bloom, Vice-Chairman Emil Cottor, Secretary-Treasurer Gladys Dahl. The Edward Blooms were given a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality. Balance on hand was eight dollars and ninety cents. It was noted that Wesley John was born to Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Brenhaug.

August 3, 1934 The annual reunion was held at Russell Beach with 94 present. President Edward Bloom, Vice-President Gustone Lindgren, Secretary-Treasurer Irene (Strand) Lindgren. A collection was taken to replenish the treasury. Nine dollars and thirty-five cents was collected. Reunion expenses were: a telephone call to Chisago City from Cottors and August Blooms to inquire about the reunion 25 cents; cards for mailing 20 cents. The balance in the treasury is $8.90.

June 1943, Winnie LeVine
Dental Assistant- Marine.

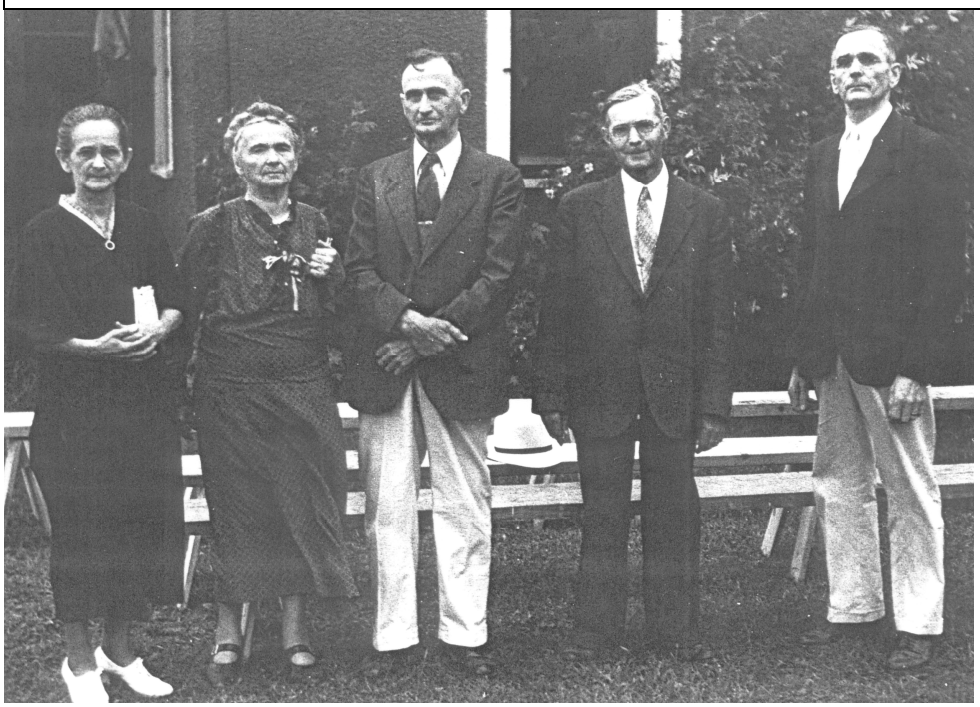
Bloom Lake is southeast of Center City on the east side of Highway 26; a bit further is "Colleen Lake" (current spelling) on the west side of the same highway. Very near Colleen Lake on the same side of Highway 26 there is a Trulson Lake and a Hawkinson Lake.

August 11, 1935 Instead of meeting at Russell Beach, the reunion was held at Tourist Park in Taylors Falls with 75 present. Honorary President Emma Strand, Vice-President Paul Bloom, Secretary-Treasurer Bessie G. Bloom. A motion was made and passed to hold future reunions on the second Sunday in August. A collection was taken to replenish the fund. Five dollars and thirty cents was collected. It was noted that Irene Bloom married Leonard Johnson.

August 9, 1936 The reunion was held again in Tourist Park with 69 present. Honorary President was Helen Bloom, Vice-President Elwyn Strand, Secretary-Treasurer Edna Cotter. A motion was made that a ten-dollar memorial be given when any of the aunts or uncles passed away. An additional motion was made to the effect that this memorial was to be paid to the treasurer of the Missionary Society of the Church of the deceased to be used for home missions. A final motion was made that the committee may change the time for the reunion to the third Sunday in June to some desired place, and that cards should be sent three weeks before the set time. A collection of nine dollars and twenty-five cents was taken. David Bloom's widow Mary and children gave ten dollars for David's memorial.

June 27, 1937 Reunion was held at Elmer Bloom's farm in Cushing, Wisconsin, with 97 present. Hilda Broberg Miller attended this reunion. Elmer's farm was 25 miles north east of Center City. Joe Bloom was elected president, Wendell Bloom vice-president and Eunice Bloom secretary/treasurer. A motion was passed that the executive committee should decide on the time and place of the next reunion. A baseball game was held in the field.

On the back of the picture it says: "Merry Christmas from Loren & Madge. Bloom reunion June 27, 1937"
Left to right:
Front Row: Christine Rose; Emma Strand; Helen Bloom (Mrs. Charles); Mrs Wilhelm Bloom ; Mary Bloom (Mrs. David)
Back: Alfred Bloom – wife Minnie, Edward Bloom – and his wife Minnie, August Bloom - his wife Ida



Left to Right:
Emma

Christine

Alfred

August

Edward

Left: Joe LeVine in light slacks and dark sport coat , his mother Wilhelmina (Winnie), Christine, Emma Behind Christine's left shoulder is Jennie Seashore; behind Jennie's left shoulder is Marian Erickson Anderson. Behind Emma's left shoulder is Sally Seashore.

Back row: The man framed in the left-hand doorway is Paul Bloom; on his right is his wife Lola; on his left is Elwyn Strand.

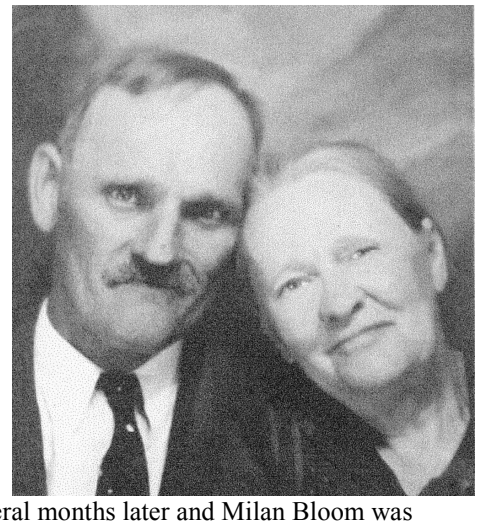
Down below the man with the loose necktie (third row from the top) is Wilhelm Bloom's widow of 50 years, Sara Marie (Mary) Bloom. She is the one peaking around someone's shoulder. (Identification by Joe LeVine)

June 26, 1938 This year we find ourselves at Aunt Christine's in Marine with 110 present. We elected Chairman Mary Bloom (Mrs. Wilhelm Bloom), Vice-President, Elmer Bloom, Secretary-Treasurer Irene Johnson. A gift was given to Aunt Christine in honor of her 80th birthday. Elvice Bloom was elected to get the family history of the Blooms for next year. A vote of thanks was given to Minnie (Mrs. Alfred Bloom) for her work on the lineage of the Bloom family. Since the last meeting August passed away on January 9, 1939. The Joe Bloom family drove down in their 1936 Ford bought with potato money.

June 25, 1939 Reunion held at the Willy Bloom's farm with 103 present. Honorary President Mrs. J. A. Bloom (Ida – Mrs. August), Vice-President Ellis Bloom, Secretary-Treasurer, Delia Bloom. Paul Bloom led the group in singing, and the Bloom Brothers Quartet performed. Stories and pranks were told about the Bloom uncles especially of the path worn between the old Bloom farm and the Jonason and Lonquist farms where the Bloom boys went to do their courting.

1939 - Four Blooms and sisters-in-law: Ida (Mrs. August), Helen (Mrs. Charlie), Emma, Alfred, Christine, Edward and wife Minnie, Mary (Mrs. David), Minnie (Mrs. Alfred)

July 7, 1940 The reunion was held at Roy Strand's home in Marine with 84 present. Honorary President Mrs. David (Mary) Bloom, Vice-President Alton Bloom, Secretary-Treasurer Mildred Bloom (Marge Svedberg's mother and daughter of August Bloom). A gift was given to Mary Bloom for her 80th birthday. Mary has been a widow for the past fifty-three years.



Joe and Della Bloom

July 13, 1941 The reunion was held at Paul and Lola Bloom's in Center City with 87 present. Elected were the Honorary President Mrs. Alfred Bloom, Vice-President William Bloom, and Secretary Alice Bloom Porter. A gift was given to Alfred in recognition of his 80th birthday. It was moved and seconded that the reunion be held the first Sunday Following July 15, 1942. (Note: Uncle Alfred and Charlie Burns died several months later and Milan Bloom was born seven days later on July 20, 1941).

July 19, 1942 Reunion was held at Edward Bloom's at the Russell Beach home with 87 present. Honorary President Mrs. Edward (Wilhelmina Mattson) Bloom (she was first cousin to Joe Bloom's wife, Della Mattson), Vice-President Wallace Strand and Secretary Estelle Erickson. Motion made to hold the reunion the 2nd Sunday in July every year if possible.

July 11, 1943 Reunion held at the Luther League Hall in Marine with 60 present. Elections of officers were held and the following officers elected: Honorary President Joseph Bloom, Vice-President Chester Bloom, and Secretary Vera Bloom (Mrs. Ellis Bloom). Original Blooms Present: Christine Rose, Emma Strand, Ed Bloom, Mrs. Ed Bloom, Mrs. Alfred Bloom, Mrs. August Bloom, Mrs. David Bloom. They have all served as honorary presidents. A motion made and seconded we pay Rev. Johnson two dollars for the use of the Luther League Hall. Motion made and seconded we meet at three o'clock next year for one meal only – a pot-luck supper. Christine Rose celebrated her 85th birthday June 22, 1943.

Blooms in the military service 1942, 1943:
Chester Tvedt – Major
Rosel Seashore – Captain
Donald Bloom – Corporal Sergeant,
Richard Collin Rose – Captain
Captain Mauritz Seashore
Ralph Bloom
Zane Van Auken, Sergeant
Harold Tvedt – Captain
John Holt
Sylvia Seashore WAC
Gerhard Park
Richard Gilbert Bloom, Corporal
Richard James Bloom S1/c

Christine Bloom Rose and Great-Grandchildren Carol and Gail Anderson - born 1942. Picture taken in Christine's yard.

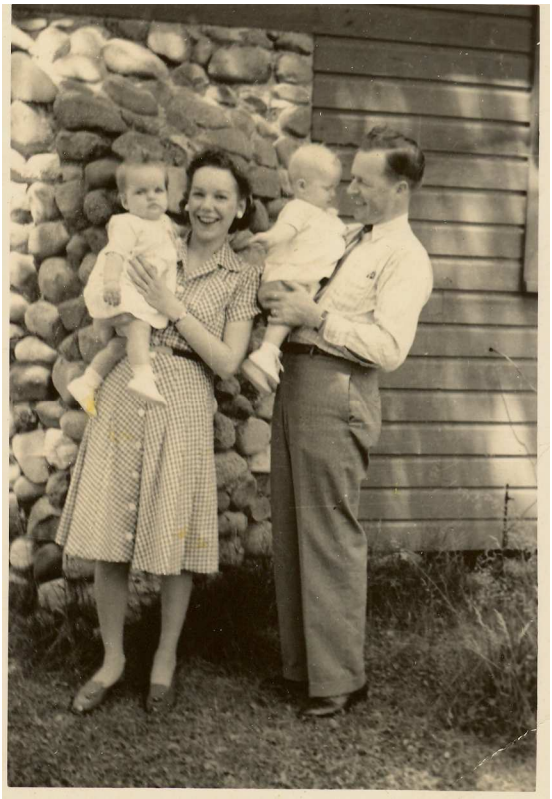
Aug 11, 1946 The reunion was held at the Taylors Falls Park with 38 present. Present was Honorary President Mrs. Ruth Porter Bloom Sanstedt (wife of Uncle Frank-deceased), Vice-President Vincent Porter Bloom son of Ruth, Secretary Grace Bloom (Mrs. Jack Tarbox). We were favored with group singing and Reverend Aner Bloom giving an interesting talk.

July 13, 1947 Reunion was held at Tourist Park in Taylors Falls with 71 present. Honorary President Ed Bloom, President Reuben Johnson, Vice-President Rudolph Dahl, Secretary Helen B. Park, Treasurer Delia Bloom. It was noted that it is customary to present aunts and uncles with a gift when they reach their 80th birthday. Therefore, a committee was selected to purchase a pin for Mrs. C. J. Bloom (Helen Jonason) – who celebrated her 80th birthday on October 29, 1946, and Mrs. August Bloom (Ida – Helen's sister and Marg Svedberg's Grandma) who will reach her 80th birthday April 11, 1948. This was the year that Mary (Mrs. David Bloom) would pass on – December 4, 1947 at 87 years, 9 months and 15 days. There was a baseball game with the Bloom boys against a Chisago Lake Church group.

July 13, 1948 The reunion held at the home of Reverend Herman and Mrs. Sanstedt in Frederic, Wisconsin. The following officers were elected: Honorary President Rev. Sanstedt, President Henning Erickson, Secretary Marilyn Strand, Treasurer (permanently) Delia Bloom. A gift was presented to Aunt Ruth Sanstedt in honor of her 60th birthday.

August 14, 1949 Our reunion was held at the Como Park Pavilion in St. Paul, with 61 present. President Carl Bloom, Secretary Margie Svedberg, Treasurer Delia Bloom. A gift was given to Aunt Emma Strand in honor of her 80th birthday on October 15, 1949.

Henning and Estelle Rose Erickson→



There was a presentation by Gilbert Bloom. Uncle Ed reported on his trip in the eastern United States.

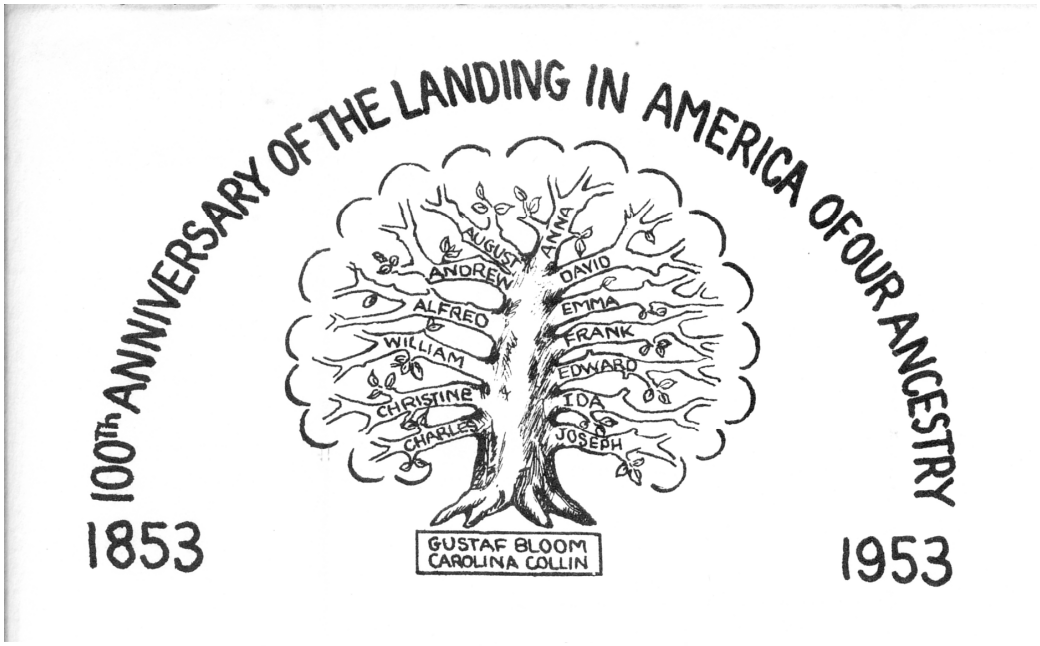
July 16, 1950 The reunion was held at the Henry Amundson's of Rt # 2, Stillwater, Minnesota, with 87 present. President Carl Bloom called it to order. Pete Bloom moved and it was seconded by Gilbert Bloom that next year's reunion be held the Sunday after the 4th of July. The following officers were elected: President, Laura Rose, Secretary La Von Strand (wife of Wallace Strand), and Treasurer Delia Bloom. Birthday greetings to Uncle Ed who would be 77 on the 19th of July and Aunt Ruth whose 62nd birthday would be next week on the 18th of July. Meeting adjourned – secretary Marjorie Svedberg.

Sharkey Anderson and Marian Rose Anderson and twin girls Carol and Gail - the editor of the first edition of this book. Carol and Gail were born in 1942.

July 8, 1951 The annual reunion was held at Marine-on-St. Croix. President Laura Rose called the meeting to order. The group sang songs and a prayer was offered by Reverend Herman Sanstedt (Ruth Porter Bloom Sanstedt's husband). A gift was presented to Aunt Minnie Bloom (Mrs. Alfred Bloom) who was 80 years old. The following officers were elected: President Elvice Bloom, Secretary Richard Bloom, Permanent Treasurer Delia Bloom. It was noted that among other births, Marg Svedberg's first born, Laura Jean Svedberg had been born. October 17, 1950.

Meeting adjourned – Secretary, La Von T.

July 6, 1952 The annual reunion was held at Frederic, Wisconsin. Our hosts were Rev. and Mrs. Sanstedt. Ruth Porter Bloom Sanstedt gave a message of welcome. Officers were elected: President, Gilbert Bloom, Vice-President Willie Bloom, and Secretary Irene Lindgren. A motion was made that the next meeting be held at the Center City Chisago Lake Lutheran Church. The meeting will be the centennial anniversary of the Bloom family. A committee was appointed by the president to take care of all arrangements. It was decided to give a memorial to the Chisago Lake Lutheran Church in honor of the Bloom pioneers. The amount was to be not less then $200. Meeting adjourned. Secretary Richard Bloom.



The Committee in Charge
of Arrangements.

Gilbert R. Bloom
Chairman

Designed by Doris and Edna Cotter

The Bloom Centennial Celebration, 7-5-1953: Chisago Lake Lutheran Church, Center City, MN

The centennial observance of the Bloom pioneers arrival in the United States was celebrated at the annual Bloom reunion. The reunion began with a church service at 10:45 AM with 225 in attendance. Pastors assisting were Edward E. Collin, Mora, Minnesota, and Dr. Lyle C. Burns, ULC, formerly of Washburn Park, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Lyle was a grandson of Sophia who married Johan Johnson. He is now a pastor in Denver, Colorado. Pastor Wenzel A. Bloom of St. James, Minnesota, gave the Liturgical Responses. Pastor Aner O. Bloom of Los Angeles, California, gave the sermon that was based on a letter written by Grandpa Gustav Collin to two of his grandson on the occasion of their confirmation on June 2, 1876. The sixty-voice Bloom choir sang "My God, How Wonderful" and "Speak O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth".

After the service pictures were taken and dinner was served in the church basement. After the dinner, President Gilbert called the meeting to order and gave a special greeting to Gustaf Bloom's two remaining children – Emma and Edward. He introduced the reunion committee who were Willie and Anna Bloom, Wendell and Lucia Bloom, Delia Bloom, Margaret Bloom and Irene Lindgren. Appreciation to the reunion committee was extended especially to Delia who composed and mailed all reunion letters to the descendants. Officers were elected: chairman Elmer Bloom, vice-chairman Elvice Bloom, secretary Cherrol Bloom. The next meeting was to be held July 11, 1954.

225 Blooms, 150 Noreliuses Observe 100th Anniversary

By Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

The Blooms and the Noreliuses came from all points of the compass Sunday to the most important gathering in the families' histories.

The Blooms, 225 of them, met at Chisago Lake Lutheran church, Center City, Minn. The 150 members of the Norelius clan got together at the home of Amy Selem, two miles north of Isanti, Minn.

FOR BOTH GROUPS it was the 100th anniversary of the arrival of their forebears in this country. But it was more than just another anniversary — the families were celebrating a century of kinship and tradition.

They shook hands, called greetings across churchyard and farmyard, asked Ted Norelius about the newspaper business in Lindstrom, talked to the Rev. Aner Bloom about the Lutheran church in Los Angeles, Calif., and found out who had married whom.

The first Bloom in the area, Gustav, met his wife through a deed of chivalry straight out of the days of knights and ladies in distress. About 100 years ago, he pushed his boat out into the Mississippi, taking food to a Collin family which had been marooned on an island because one of them had cholera.

AS HE CAME near the island, Caroline Collin came down to the water's edge to meet him. They were married later and lived happily ever after.

esterday two of their grandchildren, the Rev. Wenzel Bloom, St. James, Minn., and the Rev. Aner Bloom, Los Angeles, Calif., recited the liturgy, preached the sermon and baptized three of the youngest Bloom descendants at the Lutheran church in Center City. Two other members of the Bloom clan, Zane Van Auken, Winona, Minn., and Paul Bloom, Center City, directed the choir. Every one of the 30 voices belonged to descendants of Gustav and Caroline.

In the churchyard in Center City, a monument is dedicated to the founders of the first Lutheran Minnesota conference.

ONE OF THE NAMES on the monument is Erik Norelius, the most famous member of the Norelius family, which also celebrated its 100th anniversary Sunday.

Rich in tradition, the Norelius family tree goes back to the 15th century in Sweden.

With Per and Elizabeth Norelius on the Swedish sailing ship that brought them to America in 1853 were four sons, Peter, James, Lars and Olaf, and two daughters, Karen and Julia. Two other sons, Erik and Andrew, had been in the United States since 1850.

Erik became widely known as the founder of Gustavus Adolphus college, St. Peter, Minn., and the first president of the Augustana Lutheran synod.

"IT'S GETTING pretty hard to keep all the relationships straight," said Carle Norelius, Minneapolis, unofficial archivist for the family. "There are probably 500 descendants of Per and Elizabeth in this country now."

A program followed the meeting. The two oldest living grandchildren, Jennie Rose Seashore and Laura Rose, were introduced. Laura gave a greeting to all in memory to our grandparents. She told remembrances of Grandfather Bloom and the old Bloom farmstead. It was both historical and personal.

Bulletin from the July 5, 1953 Bloom Relation Centennial Day

Lest We Forget

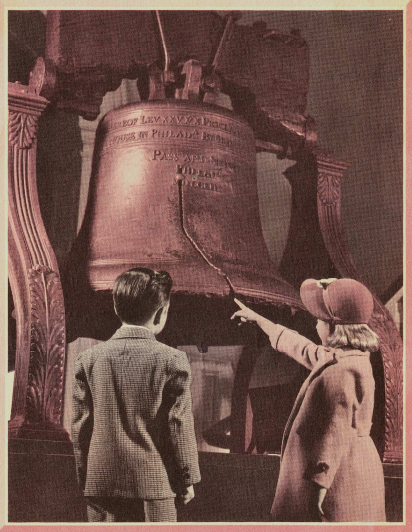
WE HAVE been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven; we have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us."

Abraham Lincoln wrote these sober words. He knew our nation well and loved it dearly. He sensed its greatest danger and pointed up its deepest need. He believed the words of the prophet of old who said, "The nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly destroyed" (Isaiah 60:12).

President Eisenhower has repeatedly warned of the spiritual poverty of our nation and urged a serious return to God. To prayer he has given a new place in the affairs of the nation. We recall his personal prayer at his inauguration, and the cabinet meetings opened with prayer. Uniting with a Christian church he has indicated how he thinks we should give to God and religion their proper and exalted place in the life of our nation.

Rejoicing in our independence, our freedom and strength, we give glory to our Creator; we seek His forgiveness, and pledge our loyalty to the God of our nation, our Father in Jesus Christ.

H. No. 5371 Litho. U.S.A.



Liberty Proclaimed

CHISAGO LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Center City, Minnesota

J. WALTON KEMPE, Pastor
FAYLON W. GEIST ..... Music Director
GERALD A. HINCKLEY ..... Summer Intern
MRS. M. P. ZEIEN ..... Financial Secretary
MISSIONARY RUSSELL E. NELSON ..... Shatin, Hong Kong

BLOOM RELATION CENTENNIAL DAY

Fifth Sunday After Trinity
July 5, 1953

Ecclesiastical Color: Green
Vol. 21, No. 27

FACULTY PRAYER MOMENT ..... 9:25 A. M.
CHURCH SCHOOL AND MISSIONARY SERVICE ..... 9:30 A. M.
MORNING WORSHIP ..... 10:45 A. M.

ORGAN PRELUDE: IN MEMORIAM ..... Josef Rheinberger
SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM
OPENING HYMN, No. 349 ..... Congregation
LITURGICAL RESPONSES ..... Hymnal, Pages 561, 587
Pastor Wenzel A. Bloom, St. James, Minnesota, Liturgist
EPISTLE LESSON ..... Genesis 12: 1-4
GRADUAL HYMN, No. 503 ..... Congregation
GOSPEL LESSON ..... John 1: 35-51
THE APOSTLES' CREED

ANTHEM: "My God, How Wonderful", Scottish Psalter, 1615
Arr. by O. R. Overby
The Bloom Choir

CHURCH NOTICES
ORGAN OFFERTORY
CONSECRATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS
PULPIT HYMN, No. 214 ..... Congregation

SERMON ..... Pastor Aner O. Bloom, Los Angeles, California

ANTHEM: "Speak O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth"
Berggreen-Wacker
The Bloom Choir

CLOSING HYMN, No. 487 ..... Congregation
THE SALUTATIONS
GENERAL PRAYER AND "AMEN"
THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD
THE BENEDICAMUS
BENEDICTION AND THE "AMENS"
POSTLUDE: FUGUE IN G MINOR ..... J. S. Bach

COME TO WORSHIP!

LEAVE TO SERVE!

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY: 2:30 P. M. Lindstrom Division Ladies' Aid meeting. Devotions: Miss Torina Miller. Hostesses: The Mmes. Edwin Carlson, Alexis Lindahl, and Arthur Lindo.

SATURDAY: 9:00 A. M. Youth Carol Choir rehearsal.

NEXT SUNDAY

9:25 A. M. Faculty Prayer Moment.

9:30 A. M. Church School.

10:45 A. M. Morning Worship.
Anthem by Youth Carol Choir.
Sermon by Pastor Daniel Martin.
Zion Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, will be picnic guests with us.

NEXT WEEK

TUESDAY: 8:15 P. M. Board of Administration.

THURSDAY: 2:30 P. M. Shafer Division Ladies' Aid meeting. Devotions: Mrs. John Vitalis. Hostesses: The Mmes. Mauritz Lantz, John Nelson and Carl A. Peterson.

SATURDAY: 9:00 A. M. Youth Carol Choir Rehearsal.

Luther League Bible Camp at Wood Lake, July 12-18. Cost, $12.50 for the week. Speak to the pastor about your enrollment for this inspiring week.

We are delighted to be host today to the Bloom Relation annual reunion, it being the 100th Anniversary of the arrival to this community of Gustaf and Carolina Bloom. May all of us always be thankful for christian ancestors; and may we guard the heritage which has been kept for us at a very great price.

"Father of all, Thy care we bless,
Which crowns our families with peace;
From Thee they spring; and by Thy hand
They are and shall be sustained."

"After 100 Years…A Unique Reunion" by Emeroy Johnson, St. Peter, Minnesota published on 8-12-1953 in The Lutheran Companion.

Occasionally a pastor may have the opportunity of sitting in a pew, worshiping as one of the congregation instead of leading the service. When this takes place in the pastor's home church where he was baptized and confirmed, the inspiration of the worship is heightened and deepened by precious memories. The writer enjoyed such a privilege on July 5 in the Chisago Lake Lutheran Church, Center City, Minnesota.

Photo by Larry Schreiber

THEY'RE ALL BLOOMS AND IT'S ALL ONE CHOIR

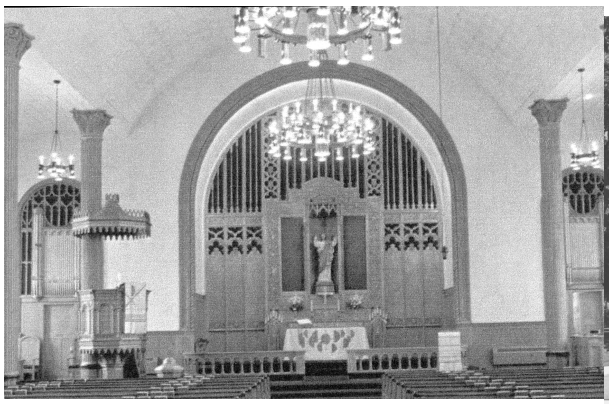
Paul Bloom, Center City, leads family choral group

Down to the Fifth Generation: The service on that Sunday was unique. The Rev. Wenzel A. Bloom, St. James, Minnesota, officiated at the altar, and his brother, the Rev. Aner Bloom, Los Angeles, California, delivered the sermon. Approximately 225 of their relatives were in the congregation. Three Bloom babies were baptized. Forty Blooms constituted the choir, singing two anthems. It was the centennial reunion of the Blooms, in observance of their ancestor, Gustaf Bloom's, coming to America in 1853. Blooms of the third, fourth and fifth generation had come from many states to attend this morning service and the informal visiting of the afternoon…

The gospel lesson for the day of the reunion was the story of how Jesus called His first disciples (John 1:35-51). The sermon by Pastor Aner Bloom was most appropriate to the occasion. His earnest appeal to "Behold the Lamb of God" was addressed particularly to the descendants of Gustaf and Caroline Bloom. And those of us who were not Blooms felt indeed that the same heart-searching call was intended for us, too.

Though the writer has no Bloom blood in his veins, it was an inspiration to be present at this unique service. Aner was my high school classmate and Wenzel my seminary classmate, which has served to form ties of brotherhood that by the grace of God shall last to eternity. But even a stranger in church that Sunday would surely have sensed the beauty and the warmth and the power of God's Word as a means of grace to every generation.

Chisago Lake Lutheran Church



Some 250 Blooms Congregate at Chisago Lake Church
It helps to hear of past hardships

The Blooms Re-live a Century

Big Minnesota family forgets everyday problems when it gets together.

By George L. Peterson, Minneapolis Star editorial page staff

(George was Gustaf Bloom's grandnephew, Helena's grandson)

On ordinary days these Blooms who so heavily populate Chisago County must have the same concerns as other people about politics, the price of cattle or the war in Korea. But last Sunday they were in a world apart, reliving the hundred years since Gustaf Bloom at the age of 30 left Sweden to settle on beautiful Chisago Lake.

Romance came to Gustaf the year after his arrival in Minnesota. He had bought a small farm on the lake and also hired himself out wherever he could find work. In Red Wing in early August he learned

The following e-mail was received on April 4, 2001. It came from one of the writers for the Minneapolis Star and explains a bit more as to who Helena Bloom's grandson, George Peterson was. Wallace Bloom (Grandson of Joseph Bloom) knew Chuck Haga when Chuck worked in Grand Forks, ND.

Chuck writes: "Milan, our Human Relations department tells me that a George Lester Peterson was employed by the Minneapolis Star from 1941 until he retired on Dec. 31, 1969. At the time of his retirement, he worked for the editorial pages (as opposed to news). Chuck Haga, April 4, 2001"

that a Swedish family coming up the river by steamer had not been allowed to land because one of the girls had died of cholera. They were put off on a little island.

Sensing their loneliness and privation, Gustaf bought provisions and rowed out to the island. Then, in the words of one of the Bloom historians, "came down to the shore such a vision of beauty and spirit as he never had seen before, not even in his native Thorsas. He fell violently in love at first sight".

The girl was Caroline Collin (pronounced "Colleen"). After considerable pleading by Gustaf and her parents, Caroline, who had thought Gustaf a bit uncouth from his year in America, agreed to marriage. Thirteen children were born to them, and at last count there were 252 living descendants of the union.

But a Bloom family reunion is a much more inclusive affair, embracing all the in-laws. I get in because my maternal grandmother, Helena, was a sister of Gustaf Bloom. She followed him to America after the cholera scare of 1953 subsided. As a boy I went occasionally to these annual family reunions with my mother. They always have been held in or near Chisago County, a land of hills and woods and lakes like so much of the Swedish countryside. The noonday dinners served smorgasbord style under the trees were something wonderful to behold and eat. This year a dinner was served by the Ladies Aid in the basement of the Chisago Lake Lutheran Church after services had been conducted by two grandsons of Gustaf Bloom. A choir of Blooms led the singing. Dinner over, the reminiscing and visiting began.

Laura Rose, who was 14 when Grandpa Gustaf died, recalled the twinkle in his eyes, his love for his farm and a set-to he once had with his wife, Caroline. She was sewing a hoopskirt, and Gustaf chided her for thus wasting time when her children needed attention. She silenced him "if the Swensons who have just arrived in the country can wear hoopskirts, I guess the Blooms can!"

The Reverend Aner Bloom recalled how Gustaf Collin, Caroline's father, had decided to come to America. He owned a mill and asked God to give him a sign if the miller should migrate-the sign to be a God-fearing customer for his mill. The next day the buyer showed up. But one of the Collin girls, who had a sweetheart nearby, talked him out of going and he bought a farm. Soon, however, he was asking God for another sign. A God-fearing man appeared to make an offer for the farm, and the Collins packed up for the long journey.

The Indians never bothered the early Chisago Lake settlers but my grandmother, who had married Magnus Broberg, got a scare at the time of the outbreak farther west. Home alone with her babies, she heard shooting one evening. She hid the sleeping babies in some shrubbery and crawled through the woods to see if the Indians were attacking the Gustaf Bloom place. Only a charivari for a newlywed couple.

Above: George E. Peterson, father of the George L. Peterson. who wrote adjacent story. This is George Sr's wedding picture to the daughter of Gustaf Blom's sister, Helena, Martha Broberg .

These Blooms-and Strands and Roses and others are inter-related-ordinary Americans with the strengths and weaknesses of all people. Yet bound by their family loyalty they seem somehow apart when they gather for one of these reunions-kindly, sturdy and deeply religious. They came from the east coast and west coast Sunday to see each other. Six generations of them live around Chisago Lake.

Hearing the elders recall the hardships of the past made facing the future a bit easier. It was good to be with them.

Comment added by Milan Bloom Jan 1, 2001:

Note: During the summer of 1862, government annuities to be used by the Dakota Indians to buy food did not arrive, and the starving Dakota Indians at two Minnesota River agencies demanded provisions. Agents refused to open the warehouses until receiving these annuities. Andrew Myrick, a resident at the Lower Sioux Agency, remarked, "Let them eat grass". Later that summer, Dakotas attacked

the Indian agencies and looted and destroyed buildings. Among the dead was Myrick with his mouth stuffed with grass. Chief Big Eagle recalled, "We thought Fort Ridgely was the door to the valley as far as St. Paul. If we got through the door, nothing could stop us this side of the Mississippi". During the summer, the Dakota killed nearly 500 settlers and soldiers in battles throughout the valley.

"George may be referring to the 1862 Indian uprising described above. Although this historical event is a plausible reason for Helena's fear, it does have at least one flaw. Helena's event couldn't have happened until about 1866 which was four years after the Indian trouble. George indicates that his grandmother had more than one child. Her first, Carl August, wasn't born until 1864. Then again, it may have taken some years before Helena lost her fear, so each reader will judge the relevance of this date for themselves."

July 11, 1954 The annual reunion was held jointly with the Collin family who were celebrating their centennial. This reunion was held at the home of Elliot Hawkinson, great great-grandson of Gustav Collin. Officers elected were: President Alton Bloom, Vice-President Earl Porter (brother to Ruth Porter Bloom Sanstedt), and Secretary Rudy Dahl. Cherrol Bloom – Secretary.

July 10, 1955 Reunion was held at the home of Leonard and Irene Johnson in Newport, Minnesota. Alice Porter, acting chairman, called the meeting to order. Elizabeth Porter, acting secretary, read minutes. Treasurer Delia Bloom reported a balance of $48.44. Officers elected for next year were President Ellis Bloom, Vice- President Loren Bloom, and Secretary Estella Rose Erickson. Aunt Ida Bloom was the oldest member attending. Happy birthday was sung to Uncle Ed, and it was noted that Aunt Emma had died the previous October. Estella Erickson, Secretary.

Jack Leffler (son of Anna Rose Leffler), Winnie Bloom LeVine, and Estelle Rose Erickson at Marian's in Forest Lake, Minnesota.

July 8, 1956 Reunion held at Como Park, St. Paul. President Ellis Bloom called the meeting to order. Wenzel Bloom, acting secretary, read the minutes. The following officers were elected for 1957: President Oliver Bloom, Vice-President Richard Bloom (son of Willie Bloom), and Secretary Beverly Bloom. A motion was made that the annual meeting be held the 2nd Sunday after the Fourth of July each year. Oldest member present was Uncle Ed Bloom. A memorial gift in the amount of ten dollars was given to Wendell Bloom.

July 21, 1957 Reunion was held at the Dew Drop Inn, Center City. Officers elected: President Chester Bloom, Vice-President Richard Bloom (son of Gilbert Bloom), and Secretary La Von Strand. A motion was made to change the meeting to the 2nd Sunday of July with the business meeting at 2:00 pm. and the meal at 4:00 pm. La Von Strand, secretary.

July 13, 1958 Reunion held at Dr and Mrs. Robert Cottor, Marine on St. Croix with 45 present. The following officers elected for the next year: President John Bloom, Vice-President Irene Bloom Johnson, and Secretary Alice Porter. The condition of Grandma Carolina's grave marker was discussed. Elmer Bloom was appointed to see to this matter. Deaths were reported to include Willie Bloom, July 10, 1958.

July 12, 1959 Reunion held at the Leonard and Irene Johnson's in Newport, Minnesota, with 70 present. Elmer Bloom reported on the condition of Carolina Bloom's grave marker. Motion was made to have the

marker repaired. Elmer consented to take care of this. Treasurer Della will also take care of the memorial to Ed Bloom. Officers elected: President, Jack Tarbox, Vice-President Richard Bloom, Secretary Doris Bloom, and Treasurer Delia Bloom. Ed Bloom's death on July 10th was reported along with the funeral in Center City, July 13th at 2 pm. Alice Porter, secretary.

July 10, 1960 Reunion was held at the home of Lillian and Lester Johnson in Excelsior, Minnesota, with 73 present. Elmer Bloom reported that a new tombstone for Carolina Bloom had to be purchased because the original was beyond repair. The cost of the new monument was $90. The group was happy to have Aunt Minnie (Mrs. Alfred) present. The following officers were elected: President, Richard Bloom (son of Willie Bloom), Vice- President Les Johnson, Secretary Lavinia Bloomquist, and Delia Bloom treasurer. (Note: Delia Bloom served as Treasurer from July 13, 1947 until July 12, 1964 – a stretch of 17 years. On July 11, 1965, Pat Penshorn was elected Treasurer and remains in that capacity today – a stretch of 38 years.

At left: Jennie Rose (1878 – 1960) and
Her sister Laura Rose below (1883 – 1972)

July 9, 1961 The reunion was held at the Ross and Lavinia Bloomquist's in St. Peter, Minnesota. Officers elected were: President Ralph Bloom (Willie's son), Vice-President Gerald Wacholz and Secretary Lucia Bloom.

July 7, 1963 Reunion at the Alfred Bloom cottage in Chisago City, Minnesota. It was suggested that we take note that the reunion should be the Sunday after the Fourth of July on the weekend. Elected were President Carl K. Bloom, Vice-President Alton H. Bloom and Secretary Irene Johnson.

July 12, 1964 The reunion was at Vi and Donald Bloom's in Lindstrom, Minnesota. Elected were President Laura Rose, Vice-President Ellis Bloom and Secretary Frances Bloom.

July 8, 1962 Reunion was at Pat and Bob Penshorn's summer home. There was a motion to memorialize all cousins with five-dollar gifts for Missions. Honorary President Reverend Wenzel Bloom, President Bob Penshorn and Secretary Arlene Bloom.

Laura Rose, Marine on St. Croix

July 11, 1965 Reunion held at Lil and Les Johnson's in Excelsior, Minnesota. Elected were Honorary President Laura Rose, President Wenzel Bloom, Vice-President Ralph Bloom, Secretary Arlene Bloom, and Treasurer Patsy Penshorn.

July 10, 1966 Reunion was held at Violet and Donald Bloom's home. Elected were: Honorary President Arlene Bloom, President Harvey Svedberg, Vice-President Reuben Johnson, Secretary Helen Parks and Treasurer Pat Penshorn. Laura Rose was the oldest member of the family present.

July 9, 1967 Reunion was held at Marge and Harvey Svedberg's in Cannon Falls, Minnesota. A motion was made that Helen Park take care of having the secretary's book rebound. Elected were Honorary President Mabel Bloom, President Gerald Wacholz, Vice-President Chester Bloom, and Secretary Doris Bloom.

July 7, 1968 The reunion was held at Gerald Wacholz and Edla Wacholz's home at Alden, Minnesota. Laura Rose was the oldest family member present at 85. Elected were President Tom Koelz, Vic-President John Bloom and Secretary Ruth Van Auken.

July 13, 1969 Reunion was held at Fran and Richard Bloom's home in Medicine Lake, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Elected were President Les Johnson, Vice-President Donald Bloom and Secretary Lucile Koelz.

July 12, 1970 Reunion was held at the home of Wilbur Bloom. A motion was made to have the reunion biannually. The next reunion will be held in 1972. Elected were President Chester Bloom, Vic-President Earl Porter and Secretary Lavinia Bloomquist. Fifty dollars was sent to Peru earthquake victims from the Bloom Memorial Fund.

1972 Reunion was at Harvey Svedberg's in Cannon Falls, Minnesota. There was a motion to return to having reunions annually again. Elected were President John Bloom, Vice-President Ross Bloomquist and Secretary Fran Bloom.

1973 Reunion held at Wilbur Bloom farm in Shafer, Minnesota. Elected were President Richard Bloom, Vice-President Zane Van Auken and Secretary Irene Johnson.

July 7, 1974 The reunion was held at the home of Irene Johnson in Newport, Minnesota. Elected were President Chester Bloom, Vice-President Vincent Bloom and Secretary LaVon Paul (wife of deceased Wallace Strand).

July 13, 1975 The reunion was at the home of Lil and Les Johnson. Arlene Bloom is now the oldest cousin at 81 years. Thirty-two cousins are still living. Elected were President Ross Bloomquist, Vice-President Byron Bloom and Secretary Marge Svedberg.

July 11, 1976 The reunion was at the home of Lavina and Ross Bloomquist in St. Peter, Minnesota. Elected were President Tom Koelz and Secretary Arlene Bloom.

Ju**ly 10, 1977** Lil and Les Johnson hosted the reunion. Elected were President Tom Koelz, Vic-President Vincent Bloom and Secretary Irene Johnson. A motion was made that Richard Bloom act as chairman of the 125th anniversary that will be next year.

July 9, 1978 The reunion was at the Chisago Lake Lutheran Church. Pastor Lynn Strand preaching on "The Harvest Will Always Happen" conducted the service. Pastor Wenzel Bloom was the lector and Pastor Almquist gave a welcoming talk. Richard Bloom directed the choir. It was thought that our ancestors Collins and Blooms were charter members. After research in 2001 of church records, it was found that they officially joined the church a few months after the books had been closed for charter members. Lola Bloom (Mrs. Paul) is the oldest family member at 94 years.

125th Bloom Reunion July 9, 1978
Sermon by: Pastor Lynn Strand Lector: Pastor Wenzel
Bloom Choir Director: Richard Bloom

It's been 25 years since I've been here, and I didn't realize at that time that the pulpit was halfway between the congregation and heaven! I had a pulpit like this in my internship and had told Pastor Almquist that every time I went in to preach in it there was a man standing in the doorway, back there, with a glass of water. I didn't see anybody there today. It is a privilege for me to be here today. When Wenzel wrote to me asking me to bring the message today, I was posthaste to say that I would be honored to do so. It's a privilege to be here in this church pulpit. It's an honor to have the opportunity to preach the good news to this very special group of people on this very, very special day. In a sense I feel that I represent all of those of God's children of the Bloom family that are gathered here today. Those people from those forbearers who chose to make their lives and fortune in a new country, and those of us who followed them up to this very day. I feel that I represent all of those people: my parents, my grandparents, Emma Bloom, my aunts, uncles and cousins and all of those I do not know but who carry with them the distinction of having as their forbearers Gustaf Blom and Caroline Collin. All of you who are part of that family are part of what I am, and I am a part of who you are. Our history, our stories go back to the same beginning. As I've said, where each of us has come from is important. It is vital, very vital, to know one's own history and to derive from that a sense of place. So it is you, Bloom family, that I represent and speak on this anniversary day. But I seek not only to look back, for this is also an hour of parish worship, and so the gospel on this day comes to all who worship at this time in this place.

There's another person here today who also represents all of us whether our hearts are celebrating family or part of the parish family. He represents and becomes a reminder of another family to which we belong. Who is that person? Jeremy Dahl is his name, and at this point Jeremy can do nothing but cry, smile and eat for he is but three months old. Jeremy and what has happened to him today is representative of all of us and all those throughout the world who belong to the family of the Church of Jesus Christ. Yes, Jeremy was baptized today. Today for him is the beginning of eternal life. He has been told that he is totally acceptable to the Father, the Father of Bethlehem. And he is told to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures. Jeremy is love. Where will his life go? What will it be? Questions I am sure are on the hearts and minds especially of his parents today, his sponsors and, yes, all of us who near or far love him.

What will happen to me, his life and your life and our lives? Where are they going? What will they be? That same day that Jesus went out alone and sat by the sea a crowd gathered about him, so he got in a boat and sat there. The whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told parables. He told about the sewer of seeds. If he sewed, some seed fell along the path and the birds came and devoured it. Other seeds fell on rocky ground where they had not much soil. Immediately they sprang out since they had no depth of soil. When the sun rose, they were scorched. Since they had no roots, they withered away. Other seeds fell upon thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil that brought forth grain.

He who has ears, let him hear. What will you be, Jeremy? Today God has given you good soil. He has forgiven your sins and given you the power to live an endless life. Know not your power, Jeremy, but His power in you to live a beautiful, fulfilling life. But Jeremy our people do live a life filled with grace and blessing. Yes, grace and blessing that miraculously appears even in our hardship. No, Jeremy, not all people make it. The sewer of the seed has the grace and lusting and life and hope and opportunity and baptism. And one might say that the results are mixed for some bad seed fell on the path, Jeremy, and the birds came and ate the seed. These are the people who grow up to be hard paths which nothing can penetrate; these people who are always in the thick of the world's activities and always very busy being rich and beautiful and productive. But they are hard, and they never take time to look at themselves and where they've come from or where they are going. They live each day only hoping for a bit more for themselves. Like paths that are used to get someplace, these people are used by others to get someplace. They end up poor. Very, very poor indeed. One man said traffic and bustle are not truth; they are only lost motion.

Or Jeremy there are those seeds that fell on the rocky ground where they have not much soil. Other plants withered for the lack of a depth of soil. There are some people in life that will say they believe

in God, in Christ, but when it comes to living, living that faith, they just don't make it. It hasn't become a part of it because there is no depth. They haven't practiced, and they're lost.

And there's a seed that fell among thorns. Oh yes, Jeremy, there are going to be a lot of thorns in your life. There's going to be a lot of struggle in your life. But sometimes where God's Word of light and grace isn't securely embedded, then life can become one big struggle with few redeeming, satisfying times.

And then there is the good soil. You are the good soil, Jeremy. God has made you that today. He has in baptism made you and each one of us good soil. Oh yes, we will at times in life be where a path, rocky ground or thorns will come into our life and threaten to choke the very life right out of us. We need to keep our roots deep in the good soil of His grace, His Word and His church. As Martin Luther said, "And though this world of devils fills and threatens to undo, we will not fear for God has willed his truth and triumph through us. The friends of darkness grim, we tremble not for him. His rays we can endure for though his doom is sure. One little word shall fell him." ("A Mighty Fortress")

Gustaf Collin wrote of his faith to his grandchildren. He wrote 102 years ago; although the language is somewhat dated, his theology and faith are not. He writes to his grandchildren on the occasion of their confirmation. "My beloved, you shall soon reveal your confession of faith to the congregation-but do not permit it to be only a confession of your tongue, but a desire from your heart and that you yourself in a new endeavor, confirm your blessed promise with your God, the Father which is your Father, Creator and Supporter, the Son your Saviour through whom you should see Grace with God, and should see as your light, who will lead you in all truth, enlighten your soul concerning the Lord Jesus, and discipline your heart when it inclines towards evil, and that He might be your Comforter and Consoler in every need. If you wish to be, and forever remain the children of God through faith on the Lord Jesus Christ, then this should be your principal objective, and then you will never permit any person nor occasion, judgment, or blame, or threat, draw you from your Jesus, then you shall love Him as He first loved you, and suffered Death for you, and in time of temptation, "why should I do so much evil toward God"? Beloved, think about this, think about this during the most important event in your lives, both on Sunday and Monday."

Yes, Jeremy, you are blessed with forbearers who knew their creed and were good sod. And the harvest happened as God promised since the time of Abraham when he told him, "Go. I will make you the father of a great nation." (Genesis 12:2) And now these two people have become the father of a great family. Their faith has come through to us as we gather here on this day.

Today Jeremy your parent and sponsors and grandparents and all the members of your Bloom family and of your Christian family will bring you to the services in God's house, provide for your instruction in the faith, teach you by words and actions what the love of God in Christ means. I pray your life will grow on rich, fertile soil that is God's creation, your baptism. That you will be part of the harvest that is sure to come. The harvest that comes because you, Jeremy, and all the rest have remained in good soil. That you recognize where you have come from and where you are going, so it will be a harvest of love, peace, joy, hope. A harvest that is flung like food that builds to all the rest of God's children. Like the family that goes on for hundreds and hundreds of years. God's will is done, and His children are forever and forever blessed. Amen

Transcribed from a tape recording by Gail Anderson Sonbuchner (House of Christine)

July 13, 1979 The reunion was held at Terri and Richard Bloom's place at Medicine Lake, Minnesota. Elected were President Lil Johnson and Secretary Richard Tarbox.

July 13, 1980 The reunion was held at Terri and Richard Bloom's at Medicine Lake, Minnesota. Elected were President Wenzel Bloom, Vice-President Steve Johnson and Secretary Doris Bloom.

July 12, 1981 The reunion was again held at Terri and Richard Bloom's at Medicine Lake, Minnesota. Elected were President Steve Johnson, Vice-President Joe LeVine and Secretary Jennifer Bloom.

July 11, 1982 The reunion was held at Lil and Les Johnson's in Excelsior, Minnesota. Elected were President Richard G. Bloom, Harvey Svedberg and Secretary Lillian M. Bloom.

July 10, 1983 Nancy and David Bloom hosted the reunion at their home in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. It was so hot that the entire reunion was held indoors. Elected were President Dave Bloom, Vice-President Ross Bloomquist and Secretary Arlene Koelz. There was a request for a talent show next year.

July 9, 1984 The reunion was held at Lil and Les Johnson's. Elected were President Jennifer Bloom, Vice-President Judy Martell and Secretary Susan Cameron. The treasury had $144.36, so the motion was made to increase memorial donations to ten collars. The talent show brought some laughs with Nancy and Dave, Arlene, Elvice and Wenzel and Lil Johnson performing.

July 7, 1985 The reunion was held at Nancy and Steve Hursh's in Scandia, Minnesota. Elected were President Kathy Bloom, Vice-President Sue Schlaeger and Secretary Miriam Kling. The talent show had Doris Bloom singing, Eunice Lilja recited a poem and sang with a banjo, a magic show by Heidi and Jeremy Schlaeger and singing with a guitar.

July 13, 1986 The reunion was held at Sue and Fran Schlaeger's in Forest Lake, Minnesota. Elected were President Kathy Bloom White, Vice-President Doris Bloom and Secretary Alice Bloom Jones. May and Miriam Kling did extensive work on the mailing addresses. A tent top was rented as it was raining in the am, but the day cleaned up to be beautiful. An ice cream social was held.

July 12, 1987 The reunion was held at Lillian and Richard Bloom's. May Kling brought restored pictures of Gustaf Bloom, Gustaf Collin and Caroline C. Bloom. Stan Seashore had composites made of these and sold them for two dollars each. The tent canopy was used again. All enjoyed an ice cream social. Elected were President Pam Forry, Vice-President Marge Svedberg and Secretary Alice Jones.

July 8, 1988 The reunion was held at Terri and Richard Bloom's in Shafer, Minnesota. Elected were President Susan Ewert, Vice-President Lil Johnson and Secretary Terri Bloom. After a meeting we drove to the site of the original Bloom farm. An ice cream social followed.

Sylvia Johnson Babb's Poem
Bloom Reunion 7-10-1988

Wilhelm Moberg named them *The Emigrants*
But they are special to you and me
For they were our brave forefathers
From Småland, Sweden, near the Baltic Sea.

I agonized as I watched *The Emigrant* film
And later in Småland at the places I'd seen,
Now the stories parents and grandparents told
Became a stark reality to me.

When we visited Klasatorpet, a tear was in my eye.
'Twas here Karl Oscar and Christina had said their last "good-bye".
Christina turned and looked-her heart was filled with pain
For this was the final glimpse of home and parents she'd never see again!

Carl Oscar didn't turn or even wave his hand.
His eyes and thoughts were only on the far-off foreign land.
Where after leaving this old place of poverty and strife,
He and all the others would find a new and better life!

Then we stood on a hill at Ulvahult
On our friends' old Småland farm,

'Twas here the small group had gathered
To pray that God would keep them safe from harm.

At Växjö Emigrant Museum we saw a space so small
That it reminded us of just a lowly cattle stall.
Here they experienced birth, death and illness upon the stormy sea.
How they managed to survive it all is a mystery to me.

Finally by boat or rail they crossed river, hill and plain
Until they found woods and lakes that reminded them of Småland once again.
And you and I remember Carl Oscar leaning against a tree
Saying, "Now I have arrived at last-this is where our new home will be".

Of course, Carl Oscar and Christina are only symbols of all who came.
We knew our own forefathers by many another name.
There were Gustaf and Carolina and Sophia to name but two or three
But they were the sturdy lifeblood of our present "family tree".

On another trip to Småland I stood
At Kålleströms Kvarn by a rippling stream.
It was here that Gustaf Collin had a very special dream
Of emigrating to America he became so obsessed
He sold the mill, Estarmåla Gård, and all that he possessed.

Sorrow, death and illness became his family's lot
Before they could reach Svedlake and the land that they soon bought.
And then there was Gustaf Blom who vowed to have fair Carolina for his bride.
It is said that on her wedding day she closed her door and cried.

Later she realized he was good and kind, but they were so very poor
That her prized possession was the porcelain knob upon their cabin door.
To thirteen children in this cabin she gave birth,
Then at the early age of forty-four she left this weary earth.

We also visited Östra Torsas Västregård
The site of Gustaf's parents' home.
I found it so quiet, lovely and peaceful
That *why* to America did his sisters want to roam?

Back in a stuga in the woods away from the family's house
Had lived my grandmother, Sophia, a spinster without a spouse.
To earn her living-food, clothes and other things she'd need-
Little children came to her stuga where she taught them how to read.

Finally the old folks passed away
And sisters Sophia, Ingrid and Helena heeded Gustaf's call
To come settle at the shore of Chisago Lakes
Where they'd find work and a good life for one and all.

Their brother, Johannes, a goldsmith
In Småland decided to stay,
And apparently he had no descendants
That we can find to this very day.

My grandparents, Sophia and Johan Magnus, I never knew
And now in 1988 the Burns, Olson and Johnson descendants number but few
But grandpa's postmaster desk-where he dispensed letters and news,
Now in a great-grandson's home in Scandia it gets loving care and use.

The Bloom descendants have multiplied
And scattered near and far.
But to annual Bloom reunions
They come by plane or bus or car.

What would the Blooms, Strands and Roses and all the rest
Think if they could see us here today?
They'd be surprised to see old memories and traditions upheld
And the accomplishments we've achieved along the way.

Perhaps it's the good old stubborn Småland blood
That courses in our veins
So that we can cope and understand
Life with its joys, sorrows, losses and gains.

We hope that we can continue sharing memories
At Bloom reunions in each others' homes
And we hope that future generations
Will appreciate our photos, stories and poems!

July 9, 1989 The reunion was at Sharon and Ron Peterson's in Chisago City, Minnesota. Elected were President Lil Johnson, Vice-President Susan Ewert and Secretary Elaine Higgins.

July 8, 1990 Ardis and Dick Swenson hosted the reunion in Centerria, Wisconsin. Elected were President Robert Penshorn, Vice-President Luke Soiseth and Secretary Elaine Higgins.

July 14, 1991 Elected were President Lavinia Bloomquist, Vice-President Ross Bloomquist and Secretary Elaine Higgins. The reunion was held at Pat and Bob Penshorn's lake home. A volleyball game was held with the families playing against each other.

1992 The reunion was at Sandy and Tim Bloomquist's in Lindstrom, Minnesota. Elected were President Richard Bloom from St. Paul, Vice-President Doris Bloom and Secretary Lavinia Bloomquist.

1993 Kathleen and Greg White hosted the reunion at their home. Elected were President Lil Bloom, Vice-President Susan Schlaeger and Secretary Karen Louis.

July 10, 1994 The reunion was held at the O'Brian State Park. The officers were reelected for one more year. Wenzel Bloom brought greetings from Arlene Bloom who is 100 years old. Doug Bloom read a description of her life.

July 9, 1995 The reunion was held at O'Brian State Park. Elected were President Lil Bloom and Secretary Jennifer Bloom.

July 14, 1996 O'Brian State Park was again the site of the reunion. The officers were reelected for another year. There is an Interpretive Center being developed near Lindstrom, Minnesota, called the Karl Oscar House. A motion was made to contribute $100 to be listed on the plaque at the center.

July 13, 1997 The reunion was at the William O'Brian State Park. Elected were President Lil Bloom, and Secretary Jennifer Bloom. Elvice Bloom was in attendance and is 101 ½ years old.

Elvice and brother Wenzel at the Bloom reunion July 1997. Willian O'Brien State Park north of Marine-on-St. Croix.

July 12, 1998 The reunion was held at the Ki Chi Saga Park. The officers were reelected for another year. Terri Bloom had done considerable work on getting the family tree up to date and asked for help with this endeavor.

July 11, 1999 Paradise Park in Chisago City, Minnesota, was the site of the reunion. Happy Birthday was sung to Wenzel for his 100th birthday. Elected were President Kris Svedberg and Secretary Pam Flesher.

July 9, 2000 Paradise Park Pavilion was decorated with decorations made by Kris and Lauri Svedberg. The officers were reelected. Bloom Bingo was played with cards made and laminated by Kris Svedberg. All enjoyed it, and prizes were given.

July 8, 2001 Paradise Park Pavilion was the site of the reunion. The same officers were retained for another year. The meeting ended with a chorus of The Ballad of the Blooms to the tune of the Beverly Hillbillies written by Kris Svedberg. Playing Bloom Bingo followed this.

July 7, 2002 The reunion was held at Paradise Park Pavilion in Chisago City, Minnesota. Officers elected were President Milan Bloom, Secretary Alice Jones and Treasurer Pat Penshorn. There was a lot of discussion on the committees needed for the next year's big 150th celebration. There was no time left to play Bloom Bingo.

Chisago Lake Lutheran Church
Bloom 150th Reunion, July 13, 2003

Bloom 150th Reunion Worship Service was held at Chisago Lake Lutheran Church in Center City, MN. The presiding pastor was the Rev. Dan Johnson, pastor of Hope Evangelical Covenant Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. He is the great, great grandson of Gustaf Bloom. The Old Testament Scripture, Isaiah 51:1-6, was read by Rev. Jo Duininck; the Gospel, Matthew 4:9-31, was read by Rev. Tom Kelby. They are the son-in-laws of Dr. Tom and Arlene Koelz. Other cousins participating in the service were Jane Ballard, organist; David Day, pianist; and Richard Bloom, choir director. The Bloom choir sang "Speak, O Lord Thy Servant Heareth", "Holy, Holy, Holy", "With a Voice of Singing" and "The Lord Bless You and Keep You".

Members of the choir (in no particular order) were Milan Bloom, Alice Jones, Wallace Bloom, Karen Gross, Michael Gross, Marge Svedberg, Lauri Svedberg, Pam Flesher, Jan Ballard, Kris Svedberg, Katie Ballard, Anne Ballard, Judy Day, John C. Bloom, Gail Sonbuchner, Ron and Sharon Peterson, Terryl Kari, Richard Bloom (son of Gilbert Bloom), Kathy White, Leslie White, Kari Stern, Amy Duininck, Rebecca Reif, Pat and Bob Penshorn, Mike Van Auken, Dan Johnson, John C. Bloom (son of Elmer Bloom), Laurel Cameron, Susan Ewert, Sarah Kelby, Susan Ford, John and Gretta Seashore, Tom Koelz, Arlene Koelz, Jo Duininck, Lillian Johnson, Sarah Cameron, Steve Johnson, Jerri Johnson, Duane Bloom, David Bloom, Cherrol Soiseth, Laura Reif, Betty Bloom, Ardis Swenson, Chuck Stern, Steve Johnson. Following the meal, a meeting was held and entertainment provided by Bloom cousins, House of Carl Johann Bloom and Helen Catharina Jonason.

Sermon by The Reverend Dan Johnson "A Return to the Quarry"

I sat right over there! As a little boy I would sit next to my grandmother when we attended our grandparents' church. When I got bored during the service and started to wiggle, she would give me a piece of Juicy Fruit Gum. If you get bored and start to wiggle while I'm up here talking, indulge yourself. However, remember what the pastor said about sticking the gum in certain places! Just don't do that, or he won't invite us back! Actually I read in a thick book somewhere that of all our senses, taste and smell evoke memories more than all the other senses. When I smell Juicy Fruit Gum, I'm taken right back to my grandmother's side. Then I begin to smell the doughnuts in the farmhouse kitchen. Then I can smell her coleslaw; then I can smell the barn! (I won't go there!!) Maybe as you begin to taste and smell all of the events this weekend, you will be taken back in time. That's why we are here this weekend - to taste and smell and remember. I can hardly express to you how honored I am and how privileged I feel to be able to stand up here in this pulpit and be able to speak to my beloved Bloom relatives. I have been so amazed to read about our family tree, our family history, in the book that Gail Sonbuchner so ably assembled. If you haven't purchased the book yet, I encourage you to do so.

The book taught me much that I never knew before. I read about Gustaf Blom and how he was a committed Lincoln man. The only time he got tipsy was the time Lincoln was elected to his second term! I read about one of our relative who experienced the Chicago fire with her two stepsons. And how can you beat the sizzling romance of Gustaf and Caroline! Caroline Collin threw herself on her bed the day she married Gustaf (she was not entirely excited about the prospect of this marriage!). Johanna, her sister, talking her into going through with it. Years later Caroline saying that he was a good man. You don't have to watch "The Bachelorette" on television! Just read the book! I also have been impressed with how many smart and talented people we have in the Bloom family. What is even more impressive is how smart and talented the in-laws are! Let's have all of the in-laws who have married into this family (and all others who are here under duress) stand for a moment! (Applause)

In our text today prophet Isaiah speaks to the children of Israel, and the Lord is speaking through him. He's holding his hands out to a stiff-necked, rebellious people who have become immoral in their ways. He beseeches them to return to him, to trust him. There are all kinds of wonderful promises in the chapters preceding Isaiah 51. If you do have a Bible in your hand, you can follow along. He says, *"I am the Lord your God, who teaches you… who leads you in the way you should go. O that you had paid attention to my commandments! Then your prosperity would have been like a river, and your success like the waves of the sea."* (Isaiah 48: 17-18) The Lord then tells them that He loves them. He says, *"Can a*

woman forget her nursing child…Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands…"(Isaiah 49:15-16)

These beautiful words of love are all in Isaiah 51: 1-2. This is what he says, *"Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you…"* In other words, the Lord is saying to the children of Israel, go back and look at your ancestors. We're Jews. Go back and look at the first Jews, Abraham and Sarah. And then he says, *"for he was but one when I called him"* (he was just one person, not very much) *"but I blessed him…"*. The Lord is saying to the children of Israel, "Trust me. Listen to me, and I will bless you.

I want to go to the quarry today and revisit our ancestors. There is a sense that Abraham and Sarah are our spiritual ancestors, but let's go back to the quarry of this area, this farmland of 150 years ago and the quarry from which Gustaf Blom and Caroline were cut-and Gustaf Collin, Caroline's father. Let's see what we can learn about these unusual people. I have two discoveries I think we'll find when we go back to the quarry and look at the rock from which we were cut.

First of all, one discovery is courage. These were people of courage. In the spring of 1853 Gustaf Blom left Sweden. He lived in abject poverty. Hunger hung over his head like a dark cloud. In fact, he sang a song that goes like this: "Har ar jag, var ar du?". It's a song about pea soup, and the peas in the soup are calling to each other, "Here am I, where are you?" There were no other peas in the soup! That's how poor they were. Gustaf Blom made a box of wood, put everything in it and came to America. He arrived in America in July, 150 years ago. He took a train to Chicago, a barge through a network of canals to the Mississippi River where he caught a steamer up to Stillwater. Eventually, he walked west. He walked, and he walked. He came to a little dot of a lake. There he staked his claim. He went nearby to buy that land; that lake was Bloom's Lake. There he built his first home. You can walk by that lake today, and my uncle has pointed out a little dent in the ground where he said, "There is where your ancestors built their first cabin - an 8x8 foot cabin". I told that to my son, and he said, "Your bed is bigger than that cabin"! This is where he took his bride, Caroline, and they toiled and labored for ten years. Life was tough. In fact we know from history that Swedish settlers from those days resorted to "rooting". They would dig around the woods just for some roots to stay alive. They would hunt game and live off that. They didn't have boot leather shoes; they had wooden shoes. They wore clothes of flax that they weaved together. After about ten years of working, there was progress. This is the difference between America and Sweden. After ten years they actually had something, specifically: $30 worth of machinery, six cows, 15 sheep, eight pigs and 11 beef cattle. And most excitingly of all, Caroline had a porcelain doorknob on the door of her new house. She had arrived!

Who were these people? I don't know that I know anyone quite like them. They were part of a massive group of Scandinavians who came to America in the mid 1800s. They came in great fear and trepidation. They came to a vast unknown uncertain of the reception they would get when they came to America. Their future was a mystery, yet they came. They were certainly motivated with promises of prosperity. They were told in Sweden that the fences here were made out of pork link sausage, and the pigs ran around roasted! If you wanted something to eat, you could take out a knife, cut a piece of bacon and have lunch! But they were also told hair-raising stories about the American Indians. In this area the Chippewa and the Sioux lived. To the great credit of our Swedish ancestors, they were on good terms with these Indians. But the Sioux and the Chippewa hated each other. There were horror stories told about what they did to each other. When many of the men from this area (there were about 36 from this congregation who fought in the Civil War) were away in 1862, and the garrison at Fort Snelling was down, there was a Sioux uprising. They were afraid that the Sioux uprising would spread up the St. Croix River, so the Swedish women slept in the cornfields at night thinking that the Indians would attack the homes.

The hostility of the indigenous people was the least of their concerns, however. Disease was the primary killer. A family coming over on that transatlantic journey could expect to lose one of their family by disease or during their subsequent travels in the frontiers of America. In fact, Caroline's Aunt Beata, (Gustaf Collin's little sister), died on a steamer. They came up from St. Louis, and there was cholera on the boat. Gustaf Collin, who was kind of a lay physician, told them not to touch the water. Beata proceeded to take a bath. She was dead within days. They buried her on the banks of the Mississippi River. We don't know where. Anna, Gustaf's oldest daughter, died in Chicago. This is a heart-rending story. Anna was engaged to a handsome, young lieutenant. She didn't want to go to America. Finally the family decided to go, and she was forced with the difficult choice of either staying in Sweden with her lieutenant or going with the family. She opted with the family. It was a terrible choice she had to make, and her heart was

broken. Her health started to fail the moment she left Sweden. She suffered on the journey over on the Atlantic Ocean. By the time she got to Chicago, she was on her deathbed. The family gathered around the deathbed to say farewell to her. One would hope there would have been fond and affectionate words of love, but Anna was so distraught that she poured out her anger and ill will at her father for taking her away from Sweden. It was the last conversation they had. I think that Milan Bloom wrote, "That day was never forgotten by Gustaf Collin".

Who are these people? What personal sacrifices they endured! What struggles they encountered! Come to the quarry with me and see the rock from which they were hewn. They are people of undaunted courage, little Lewis and Clarks forging the way. Little Abrahams and Sarahs answering the call to a better life. Leaving the familiar. Leaving family to build a better life for those who would come after them. This is the rock from which you were hewn - undaunted courage. They had the willingness to risk everything for the hope of a better life. They had a steady resolve in the face of fearsome challenges.

So dear Bloomies, do not be afraid. The same God that sustained Abraham and Sarah and these others will sustain you. Do you face an unknown future? Are you not sure where your next paycheck will come from? Is your health hanging in the balance? God holds you in His hand just as He held our forbearers in His hand. As God calls you to a new place, do you face a challenge you never asked for? Is there an uprising in your company, in your neighborhood, in your family? Would you like to find a cornfield where you could hide? The same God that protected our ancestors will protect you. Is God calling you to fearlessly give some of your financial resources to a worthy ministry? Is God calling you to leave your occupation to go into ministry? Is God asking you to act with courage and integrity though no one else is? The God that called Abraham and Sarah, Jeremiah and Isaiah, Peter and the disciples and Luther is calling you. When you trust Him and follow Him though it may be a great personal sacrifice, it results in a lot of singing for other people. And so we read in the text, *"Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song"*. Isaiah 51:2-3

That is the rock from which you are hewn.

Another discovery we find when we visit the quarry and reflect on our ancestors is a vital spirituality. Gustaf Blom and his father-in-law, Gustaf Collin, were both deeply devout men. I wish I could talk more about the women, but I don't know that much about them. I would love to be enlightened! We tend to know more about Gustaf Collin because he was a writer. He wrote many of his thoughts down in letters, and we have those. They both loved the Word of God. By the way, you have to keep the Gustafs straight. I had one in-law say, "You know your family has one to many Gustaf's!" You can't argue with that, but Gustaf Blom and Caroline were married, and we all come from the thirteen children. Gustaf Collin is Caroline's father who is Gustaf Blom's father-in-law. They both loved the Word of God. When Gustaf Collin wrote to his granddaughter Christine on her marriage day, he quotes scripture 34 times! He writes a little letter to his grandchildren who are being confirmed and quotes scripture 14 times! They both had leather devotional books in their coat pockets and carried them with them all the time. They were both deacons in this church and helped plant this church. If you haven't been down to the Heritage Room, Gustaf Collin's Bible is down there. He made a musical instrument that he used to lead the choir, and you can go see it downstairs. I was surprised to learn that Gustaf Collin was a reader. Now I'm a pastor of an Evangelical Covenant Church that is a cousin church to the Lutheran Church. In fact the Free Church, the Covenant Church and the Swedish Baptist Church all came out of the Lutheran State Churches in Sweden back in the 1700 and 1800s. The Läsare movement that took place in Sweden at that time influenced all of those cousin churches. What happened is that many of the Swedes became disenchanted with the Lutheran Church, and they started to meet in homes and have little Bible studies, and they would read the Bible. They were called "Läsare readers". They would also read Luther's works. They would read all of the theological works. So when I would have a new members' class in our church, I'd set all of Luther's five volume theological set right there and tell them that to become a member of this church they'd have to read all of those books. I'd have a big smile on my face. I stopped saying that because I was the only one smiling!

Gustaf Collin was a leader in this movement. He loved to read the Word of God and Luther's works. When he came to America, he was touched by what they called "the America fever"; the stories about pigs running around and the hope for prosperity inspired him. He also came to America because he felt called by God. In fact, his pastor said that he should go to America because the Swedes needed him

over there. He wanted to go, but his family didn't want to go. Even though he sold his mill in Sweden, his trip was aborted, and he ended up buying a farm. But the call of God was still on him. So one day he prayed, "Lord, if you want me to go to America, have someone come to the farmhouse soon to buy the land". The next day there is a knock on the door, and a man says that he wants to buy the farm and wants to buy it now. He took that as a sign, packed up the family and went. He said, "Et calle**",** which is Swedish for "I must comply."

Gustaf Collin was known throughout this area as a Godly man, a spiritual father, a gifted preacher, a lay preacher and a lay physician. He would set bones; he had herbal remedies; he would pray for people's healings. One of my favorite stories is when Gustaf Collin lectured some boys because they were going to a barn dance (you know those barn dances!). They didn't appreciate it very much. Gustaf was hit by a stick when he was walking home in the dark (no moon)! The next day a boy came to see him because he had a broken collarbone. The boy was so distraught that he confessed immediately that he was the one who had hit him with a stick. The boy thought this must be divine retribution! Gustaf immediately forgave him and loved him. The moral of the story, of course, is "don't be messing with preachers"! Can I hear an "Amen"?

The spiritual vitality of Gustaf Collin and others was not a dour, stiff religiosity. Both of those men were known as cheerful, warm, humble men. There is a story about one of Gustaf Collin's friends catching some fish and leaving it on his fence post for him. He thought someone had forgotten it, and he was not so presumptuous as to cook it up so the fish spoiled. They had intended it for Gustaf Collin the whole time! Their kindnesses were common. They left food and feed on the porches of families who were less fortunate. And did they sing! They loved to sing despite the hardships.

This is a wonderful legacy that is handed down to us through the family. This is the rock from which we are hewn. I personally am a recipient of this legacy. I grew up in a hot box of Christian love that fostered the growth of my spirit. Aunts and uncles who adored us and doted on us surrounded my siblings and me. And did we sing! I soaked in the values and ethics of these faithful Lutherans. I learned to shun racism by sitting at the table on the farm with a bunch of Humphrey Democrats listening to them solve all of the world's problems! This is the rock from which I am hewn. I learned the value of a single human life when I sat in the back row at their church at Willie Bloom's funeral. I was eight years old. I remember hearing the pastor say that all the money in the world doesn't equal the value of one human life. I remember thinking in my grubby little materialistic mind, "That's a lot of money!" Yet it was Jesus who said, *"What does it profit a man if he gains the whole world but loses his soul"?* That's the rock from which I was hewn. I learned the dangers of religious hypocrisy. When I was a young teen, my Uncle Richie and my brother were driving around. Richie was giving us a tour of this area. He went by one farmhouse and said that the person who lived there was a spiritual giant. We said, "What do you mean a spiritual giant, Uncle Richie"? He said, "He spoke in a lot of spiritual platitudes and prayed long prayers, but I knew better". I said, "What do you mean you knew better"? Richie said, "I saw how he treated his horses". I remember sitting in the back seat of that car having a little commitment ceremony with the Lord thinking I hope to God I never talk one way and walk another. That's the rock from which I was hewn. That's the legacy that was handed me. Those are the values and ethics and spirit that were laid on me like a mantle. That's the power of family legacy that is bestowed on you, dear Bloomies. I was cut from some kind of rock, and so were you.

Come to the quarry and meet people who pursued righteousness, who sought after God, who had a spiritual yearning, who trusted the word of God and actually tried to live it out. Come and receive the legacy, and then give it to your kids.

I want to conclude with one more word to those of you who are here at this reunion this weekend, and you're thinking that this is the last reunion you're coming to. Perhaps you are thinking, "I won't be around much longer". I have good news for you. There's another reunion being planned. Isaiah makes reference to it. In the text we read today, he says, *"The heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment… but my salvation will be forever"*. (Isaiah 51:6) Jesus made reference to it. He said, *"The sun will be darkened, the stars will fall from the sky***".** (Matthew 24:29) Everything you see around us will be changed. But then He also said*, "I am preparing a place for you. In my father's house there are many rooms". (John 14:2) Men will come from east and west and north and south, and they will sit at the table in the kingdom of God. (Luke 13:29)* Angels are already starting a list*. "Blessed are those who are invited to the feast of the Lamb". (Rev. 19:9)* Someday there will be a trumpet blast announcing the end of the age. Scripture says, "He will send His angels with a loud trumpet call and the elect will be gathered from every nation from the four winds of the earth". (Matt 24:31) That will be some reunion, and you're

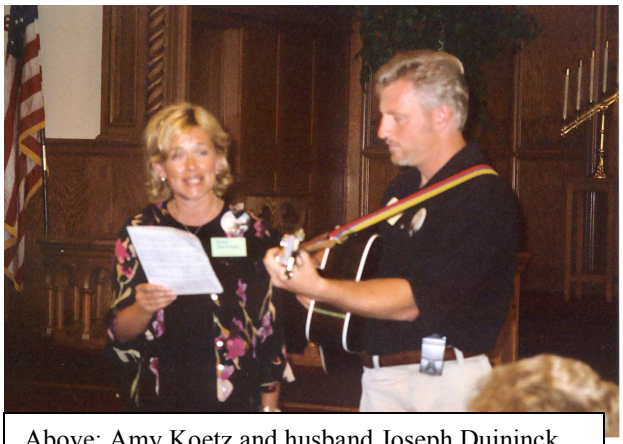
invited. With all due respect to the planning committee of this reunion, the next one will be beyond compare. Oh the family time! We won't be looking at black and white photographs of long lost relatives. We'll be seeing them face-to-face. The joy! The singing! The table spread! Potato salad as far as the eye can see!! It will be heaven. You're invited. Today is not the last reunion. As Jesus said, *"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me though he die yet shall he live"*. (John 11:25) As Gustaf Collin said in a letter to his grandchildren, "My beloved, you shall soon reveal your confession of faith to the congregation - but do not permit it to be only a confession of your tongue, but a desire from your heart".

That's the rock from which you were hewn. Amen.

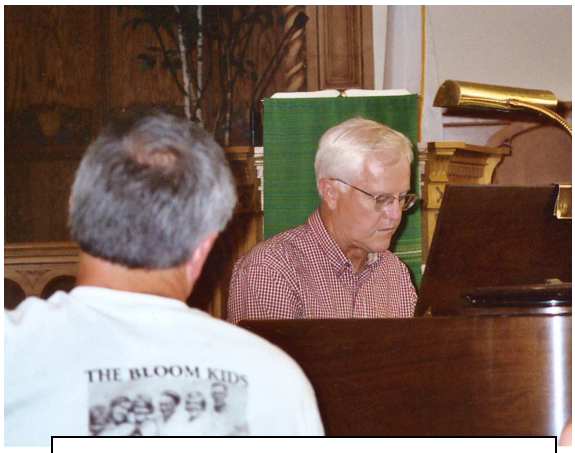
Let us pray together. Our great God in heaven, we thank you that your ever watching eye and powerful hand has been on your people since the day of Abraham and Sarah, since the day of our ancestors came over here from Sweden. We have seen your protection, your power, your care, and your love. We've seen their devotion, their courage, and their hunger to know you more. Lord, may the legacy continue, and may it continue through us. Thank you Lord. Thank you for your faithfulness, and may we return it in kind. Amen.

Transcribed from a tape recording by Gail Anderson Sonbuchner (House of Christine)

Bloom reunion. Date unknown. Also, see companion picture at end of this chapter. I would say the 1940's based on the cars in the picture at the end of this chapter.



Above: Amy Koetz and husband Joseph Duininck



Above: Mike Van Auken – Family of Carl

Below: Dan Johnson on left – Family of Carl

Above: Back row: Ron, and Sharon Peterson and Unknonw (Family of Edward)

Front Row: Elaine and Jim Higgins
(Family of Christine)

Rachel Kurtz, John Seashore, Kristin Kronfeld, Gretta Seashore

Tom and Tori Billings and the Olsons: Connie, Marla Colton, Rod and Lance plus Hugo Sonbuchner

Above: from Emma's Family: Barbara Wollan, Robert Cottor, Anne Kuhn

Right From the family of Carl:

Back: Pat Penshorn, Cherrol Soiseth
Front: Lillian Johnson and from the family of Frank: Lavinia Bloomquist

Above: Sylvia Seashore

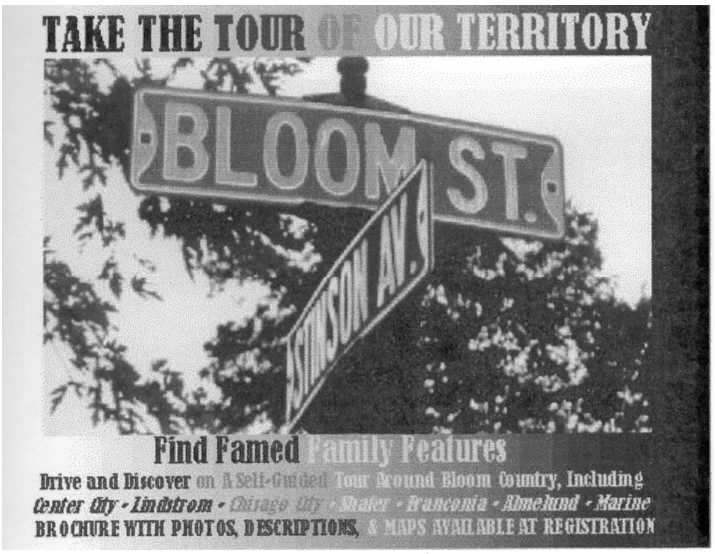
Above from Joseph's Family:

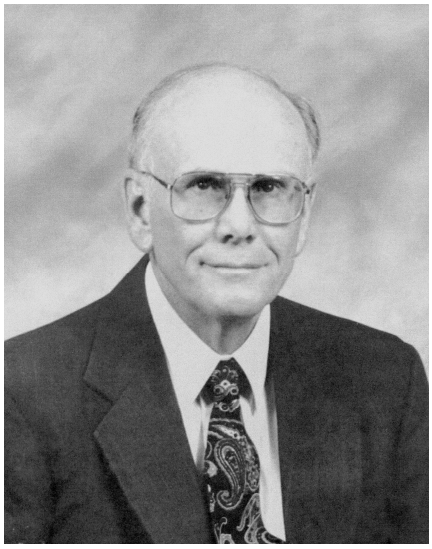
Barbara Thompson and sister Lucille Ward

Helen Broberg, Granddaughter of Helena Broberg – Gustaf Blom's sister. Corner of Stinson Ave and Bloom Street.

Family of Helena (Blom) Broberg:
Back – Carol Stomsness Cattrall, Paul Stromsness, Robert Broberg, George Kattleman
Front: June Broberg Nelson, Mardelle Brown Crist, Helen Olson Stromsness.

150th Bloom Reunion Choir Directed by Richard Bloom.
Richard Bloom – front row, right hand side.


TAKE THE TOUR OF OUR TERRITORY
BLOOM ST.
ATKINSON AV.
Find Famed Family Features
Drive and Discover on A Self-Guided Tour Around Bloom Country, Including
Center City • Lindstrom • Chisago City • Shafer • Franconia • Almelund • Marine
BROCHURE WITH PHOTOS, DESCRIPTIONS, & MAPS AVAILABLE AT REGISTRATION



Milan Bloom was president of the 150th reunion centered at the Chisago Lake Lutheran Church. Secretary Alice Jones worked with her brother, Milan, on the invitations containing the planned activities. The Chisago Lake Lutheran Church service was held at 11 AM with Cousin Pastor Dan Johnson conducting the service. Richard Bloom directed the Bloom choir. Presiding organist was Jan Ballard; David Day was the Bloom choir accompanist. This was followed by a catered picnic dinner in the Social Hall downstairs. Carol Preisler, Suzanne Schlaeger and Sharon Peterson made arrangements for the church's museum/church historical society to be available with a curator for tours. Dan Boudreau organized the registration desk and the volunteers. Kris and Laurie Svedberg wrote a self-guided automobile tour brochure of places important to the Bloom descendants, and Ardis Swenson arranged for a professional photographer to be available to take family pictures. Les Johnson and Bob Penshorn organized a golf tournament at the Chisago Lakes Golf Course in Lindstrom, Minnesota. The Anders Gustaf Blom Familjebok 1754-2003 by Gail Anderson Sonbuchner was available for purchase. Kim Higgins Pietrzak designed the Ancestors of Gustaf Anders Carlsson Blom picture tree and created the DVD. Karl Oscar Days was held at the same time as the Bloom reunion in Lindstrom. It is a big celebration that commemorates the coming of the Swedes to Minnesota. There was a parade Saturday evening, craft show and fire works Sunday evening.

Bloom Reunion July 18, 2010
Paradise Park, Chisago City, Minnesota

The reunion meeting start at 2:pm. The weather was great, the food was great, with 33 Bloom's having signed in.

President David Bloom (family of Alfred) thanked everyone for coming and bringing the food.

Suzanne Schlaeger noted that the family of Edward had a special reunion of their own this past year and how successful and fun it was. (I recommend that other families follow their lead, I know some already do – Comment added Milan Bloom).

Dan Boudreau gave an update on the Bloom monument. Below, in Dan's own words, is a summery of what we agreed to:

"As a reminder of what we decided to do, The marker will be moved from its current resting place before the ground freezes, and moved closer to the road (Bloom Lake Road), to sort of get it out of the way of farm equipment. Over the winter, we will come up with a specific design plan for the site, then in the spring, we will schedule a work day at the site, purchase the required materials, then do the work. I will need the help of each and every one of you. There will be tasks to perform that occupy the entire spectrum

of abilities and talents, and I have the expectation that everyone will show up on the work day. OK? Great. Its settled then. We start next month with my appearance before the township board to officially inform them of our decision to proceed with developing the site. That meeting will be on Tuesday, August 17th. It would be great to have a few of the family elders who live in the area join me at that meeting. I'll get another note out on that later. Dan - Immediate Passed President"

A motion was made and passed by all present to support the above concept.

Treasurer's report: Our current balance is $682 with $183 expense this past year.

Officers for next year will be the same: President - David Bloom (Alfred); Treasurer - Sharon Peterson (Edward), Secretary - Milan Bloom (Joseph).

Milan gave a report on his progress with updating the Family book and mentioned that we can now trace our family back to about 1500. Milan also mentioned that the 2003 book has grown to perhaps 350 pages and includes audio and video so how to distribute will need some thought. It may take some technology that exist but is currently expensive (kindle or ipad maybe?)

We were also reminded that our reunion starting with 2010 will be held on the 3rd Sunday of July. (This is a change from 2009 and before)

We closed with some entertainment by Steve and Jerri Johnson – group singing and such like.

Milan Bloom
Secretary, Bloom Reunion.

A Bloom reunion. Based on the cars, I would say the 1940's.

Comment added - Milan Bloom

Chapter 16

Who is this? I (Milan) doubt that it is Gustaf Collin and his daughter. So than who?

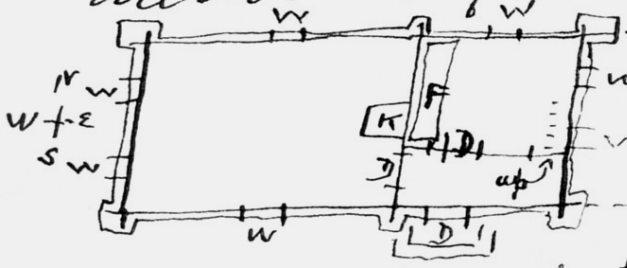
Gustaf Collin's Bible →

House of Gustaf Blom's Uncle Lars.

Anton Rose sent his Uncle Frank Bloom the letter below. The letter was written in Sweden during Anton's trip there in 1929. The house Anton was referring to is the one pictured above and it belonged to our Gustaf Blom's Uncle Lars in the 1800's. It was still in Uncle Lars's family as of 1929.

Frank

This Old Bloom house - -
is very interesting! The little
chimney is on the part that was
added after Lars Bloms days -
and probably after grandpa
came to Am. The line in
the wall betw. the door and the
far window is the old "Knut"
the line near the door - on the
side - is a partition - partitions
were also of timber. All the
rooms had low ceilings - and
stairway is very narrow. Much
of Smaland architecture re-
minds me of New England.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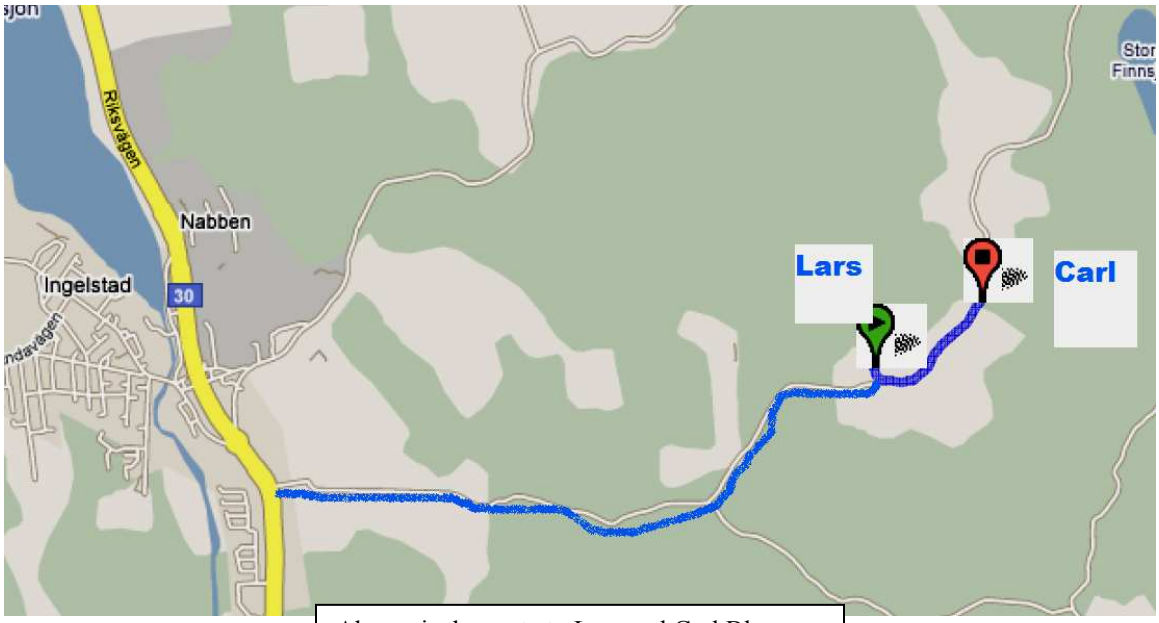
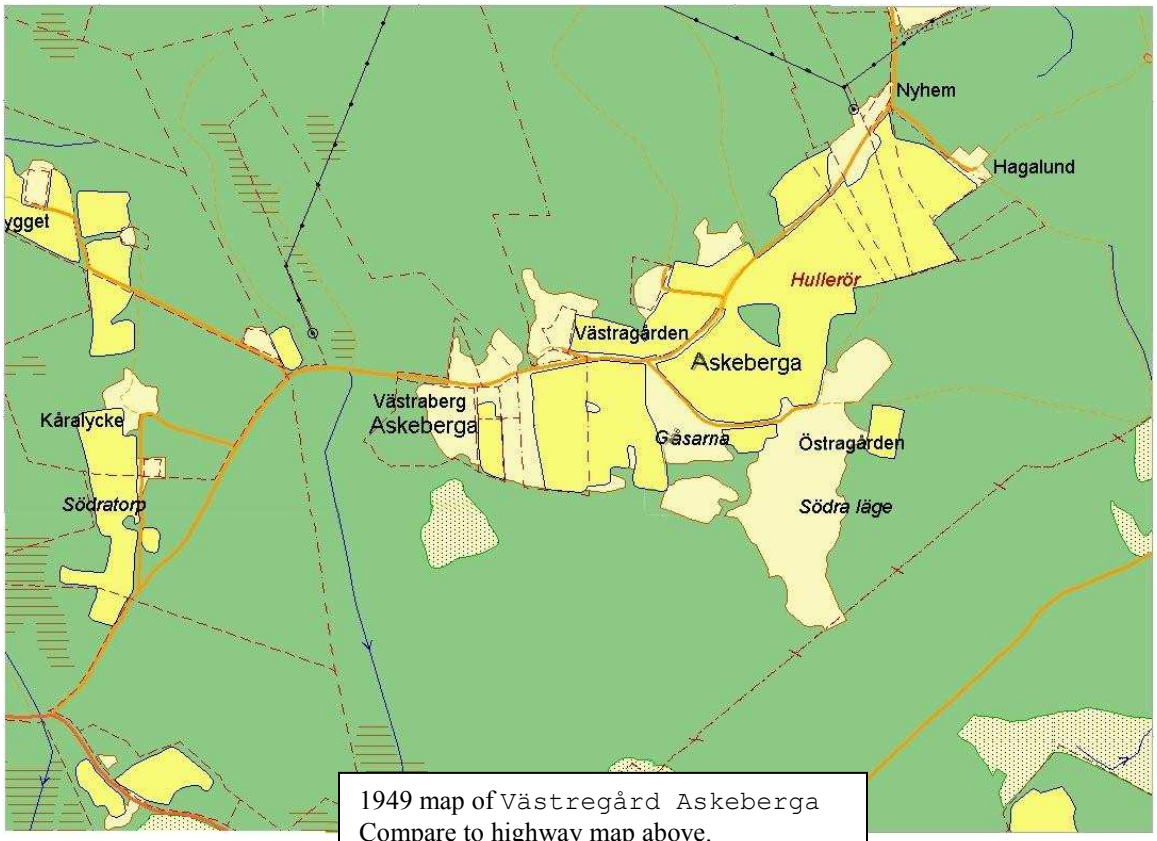


Above: is the route to Lars and Carl Blom farms. Route plotted from Ingelstad using highway 30. Distance from Ingelstad to the farms is less then 5 US miles



1949 map of Västregård Askeberga
Compare to highway map above.

Carl and Lars farms in Västregård Askeberga east of Ingelstad as found on this **1827** map.

People come into your life for a reason, a season, or a lifetime.
When you figure out which it is, you know exactly what to do.

When someone is in your life for a REASON, it is usually
to meet a need you have expressed outwardly or inwardly.
They have come to assist you through a difficulty,
to provide you with guidance and support
to aid you physically, emotionally, or spiritually.
They may seem like a Godsend, and they are.
They are there for the reason you need them to be.
Then, without any wrong doing on your part
or at an inconvenient time, this person will say
or do something to bring the relationship to an end.
Sometimes they die. Sometimes they walk away.
Sometimes they act up or out and force you to take a stand.
What we must realize is that our need has been met,
our desire fulfilled – their work is done.
The prayer you sent up has been answered,
and it is now time to move on.

When people come into your life for a SEASON,
it is because your turn has come to share, grow or learn.
They may bring you an experience of peace or make you laugh.
They may teach you something you have never done.
They usually give you an unbelievable amount of joy.
Believe it! Believe it is real! But only for a season.

LIFETIME relationships teach you lifetime lessons –
those things you must build upon
in order to have a solid emotional foundation.
Your job is to accept the lesson, love the person/people
and put what you have learned to use
in all other relationships and areas of your life.
It is said that love is blind but friendship is clairvoyant.

Thank you for being a part of my life.

author unknown